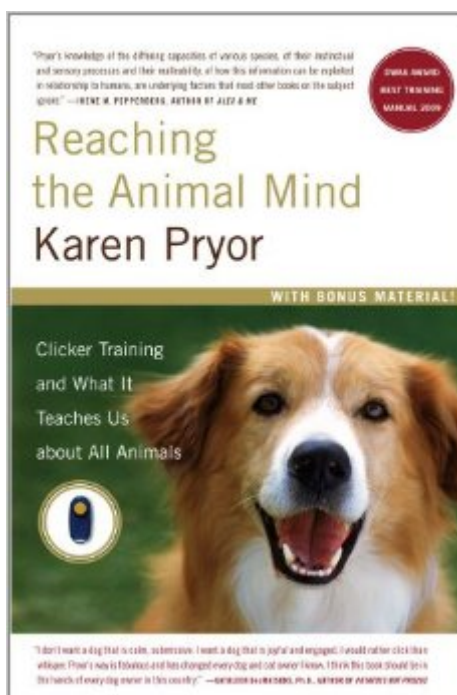


The book was found

# Reaching The Animal Mind: Clicker Training And What It Teaches Us About All Animals



## Synopsis

From the founder of the clicker • training, the widely praised humane approach to shaping animal behavior, comes a fascinating book – part memoir, part insight into how animals and people think and behave. A celebrated pioneer in the field of no-punishment animal training, Karen Pryor is responsible for developing clicker training – an all-positive, safe, effective way to modify and shape animal behavior – and she has changed the lives of millions of animals. Practical, engrossing, and full of fascinating stories about Pryor's interactions with animals of all sorts, *Reaching the Animal Mind* presents the sum total of her life's work. She explains the science behind clicker training, how and why it works, and offers step-by-step instructions on how you can clicker-train any animal in your life. For bonus video clips, slide shows, articles, downloadable exercises, and links expanding on the contents of the book, go to [ReachingtheAnimalMind.com](http://ReachingtheAnimalMind.com).

## Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Scribner; 1 edition (June 8, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0743297776

ISBN-13: 978-0743297776

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars – See all reviews (171 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #43,644 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Animal Psychology #96 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Training #204 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Fauna

## Customer Reviews

At least that's how I feel after reading this wonderful book! To be honest, I had no idea as to what this book might be about - I thought it might be about finding a way to communicate better with your pet (in my case, a very BIG cat, who is the one that really runs my home). I also thought that it might be one of those cutesy animal books that are often fun to read but lack any substance. Boy, was I wrong! Instead, I discovered what a tremendously exciting and wonderful world that the study of animal behavior (include humans) can be through the eyes of an expert in behaviorism, and the study of how behaviors can be developed, learned, and altered that goes back to the work of Pavlov

and later Skinner. I digress, however, as I don't want this review to focus on the hard science behind this book as it is wonderful reading for anyone who is interested in animals (of any kind) and how they may be trained. This book will also greatly appeal to those who like fascinating (sometimes even a bit bizarre) and hilarious stories about how humans are learning to interact with animals and each other. The author, Karen Pryor, is an expert on using behavioral techniques to train dolphins and began practicing these principles when she was unexpectedly recruited to train the dolphins at Sea Life Park (Hawaii) back in 1961. At that time, her only qualifications were that she happened to be married to one of the people who ran the park and no one else could get the dolphins to perform (remember, this was in 1961 when very, very little was known about training animals in the manner which is now used all over the world today).

Karen Pryor does a superb job of describing the "how" and "why" clicker training reaches the animal mind and gets results. She takes classical conditioning (that involuntary or automatic response to a stimulus such as a clicker) and turns it into operant conditioning whereby the animal learns to actively respond to that stimulus. During training you use a primary reinforcer (food, play) which is something the animal wants and is encouraged to work for to elicit the behavior. Also during operant conditioning a cue (such as a word or hand signal) is paired with the stimulus (clicker) and acts as a reinforcer as long as the recipient (animal or human) knows what it means and what to do. Over a period of time you use the clicker (and eventually the cue) and primary reinforcer to shape the behavior into what you want. If the conditioned response is not received, then withhold the primary reinforcer (for example, treat) until the expected behavior is repeated. However, you must remember never to cruelly punish non-behavior or force the desired behavior because you risk getting a fear response to your stimulus that can last forever. This explains why so many trainers and people fail in their training methods; it only takes one bad response on the trainers part. The author provides many examples of where this training has worked and tells of how she has trained fish, a hermit crab, and other animals. She also gives a good example of horses that were impossible to load in a horse trailer becoming horses who loaded themselves. The trainer used the above techniques along with successive approximation which meant modifying the environment repeatedly to sequentially increase the difficulty of the task until it was similar to the environment the horses were afraid of.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Reaching the Animal Mind: Clicker Training and What It Teaches Us About All Animals Clicker Training for Cats (Karen Pryor Clicker Books) Getting Started: Clicker Training for Cats (Karen Pryor

Clicker Books) Clicker Training for Your Horse (Karen Pryor Clicker Books) Dog Training: A Step-by-Step Guide to Leash Training, Crate Training, Potty Training, Obedience and Behavior Training Coloring Books for Adults: Animal Masks: 30 Wild Animal Face Designs to Color and Exhibit (Animal Mask Patterns, Wild Animal Patterns, Doodle) Safari Animal Patterns: 30 Exotic Safari Animal Patterns to Feel the Wildlife World (Safari Animal Patterns, animal designs, zendoodle) Clicker Training for Clever Cats: Learning Can Be Fun! Trick Training for Cats: Smart Fun with the Clicker (Bringing You Closer) Puppy Start Right: Foundation Training for the Companion Dog (Karen Pryor Clicker Book) Mountains of the Mind: Adventures in Reaching the Summit Animal Spirit Guides: An Easy-to-Use Handbook for Identifying and Understanding Your Power Animals and Animal Spirit Helpers Animals of the Australian Outback: Animal Encyclopedia for Kids - Wildlife (Children's Animal Books) Puppy Training Guide 4th Edition: The Ultimate Handbook to Train Your Puppy in Obedience, Crate Training, and Potty Training How to Draw Animals with Colored Pencils: Learn to draw Realistic Wild Animals and Pets, Tigers, Parrot, Snake, Horses Leopard Dogs, Cats and More! How to Draw Cute Animals for Kids and Adults Running with the Mind of Meditation: Lessons for Training Body and Mind What I'd Teach Your Horse: Training & Re-Training the Basics (Horse Training How-To) (Volume 8) Animals, Animals, Animals! Mad Libs Junior I>Clicker 2 Click to Calm: Healing the Aggressive Dog (Karen Pryor Clicker Book)

[Dmca](#)