

Psychic tells how to read pet's mind

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The question was simple.

"What color is Lucy's bowl?" pet psychic Amelia Kinkade asked the workshop's participants.

The Lucy to which she referred was a gangly and exuberant, Newfoundland puppy languidly stretched out on a conference table.

Shouts of "silver" and "white" rang out from the group, but the word "blue" surfaced with surprising regularity.

Wrong, the owner said. It is tan.

That wasn't an illustrious start to the series of questions Kinkade asked the group after spending half a day instructing them in the ways of communicating with animals.

"What color are your other dogs' bowls?" Kinkade inquired.

Blue. All of them.

Aha! Dogs are known to be rather, um, indiscriminate in their choice of drinking vessels, she joked, and it would appear Lucy was borrowing some beverages from her peers. That explained the wealth of blue bowl images the audience received from Lucy, she said.

That's key to listening to what animals are saying, Kinkade explained: Be open to what they are communicating rather than closed to any but the expected answer.

Kinkade, who wrote "Straight From the Horse's Mouth: How to Talk to Animals and Get Answers," conducted a daylong workshop at Benedictine University in Lisle to benefit the Naperville chapter of Animals Deserving of Proper Treatment.



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Pet psychic Amelia Kinkade got a warm welcome during her workshop Saturday in Lisle from Blue Sapphire, a Great Dane. The dog was there to help participants learn to communicate with and understand animals.

Before the group started practicing the lessons on several dogs and cats brought in for the demonstration, Kinkade walked the seminar participants through meditations. They were aimed at helping them connect with their inner spirit guide, usually an animal, that would help them speak to, and understand, nonverbal creatures.

Once that's accomplished, she explained, people need to be open to the visual images present in the

animals' minds. For example, if someone asks the question "What's your favorite food?" they should expect an immediate, almost simultaneous response from the animal being queried.

Through the series of questions she asked, Kinkade encouraged the workshop participants to be self-affirming when they heard correctly. And as the exercises progressed, the answers did tend to become more consistent through-

out the group.

By the time they finished discerning the last of Lucy's inner thoughts, nearly all of them were on the same track. Or at least the range of answers had diminished markedly.

"What's Lucy's favorite activity outside?" Kinkade asked.

"Digging" a surprising number of people responded.

Her owner said they were very nearly perfect in what they heard from Lucy