



PET OWNERS UNLEASH THEIR DOG'S COMMUNICATION POTENTIAL WITH HUNGER FOR WORDS™

Christina Hunger, creator of the talking dog movement, partners with Learning Resources® for a revolutionary influencer product collaboration in conjunction with her New York Times best-seller 'How Stella Learned to Talk'



From author Christina Hunger and Stella, one of the internet's favourite dogs, comes the **Talking Pet Starter Set**, inspired by the ground-breaking true story of how Stella — the world's first talking dog — learned to "talk." Developed in partnership with Learning Resources, the Hunger for Words Talking Pet Starter Set was designed so every dog can learn to communicate just like Stella, using techniques found in Christina's best-selling book 'How Stella Learned to Talk'.

This speech starter set for pets includes four recordable speech buttons manufactured by Learning Resources, along with an easy-to-use teaching guide written by Christina Hunger, a licensed speech-language pathologist, leading influencer, and creator of the talking dog movement with over 800,000 followers on Instagram.

Christina first dazzled the world with her dog Stella's ability to "speak" using simple paw-sized buttons associated with different words. It didn't take long for Stella, a Blue Heeler/Catahoula mix, to go viral with hundreds of thousands of dog-owners implementing Christina's techniques in the hopes of finally answering: What is my dog trying to tell me?



Today, Stella has inspired a revolution in interspecies communication and a social media craze viewed by millions on platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok. With the Hunger For Words™ Talking Pet Starter Set, pet lovers can harness their own pet's communication potential with a simple step-by-step guide and activities using the different recordable speech buttons to model language. Owners are encouraged to teach first words such as "outside", "play", "walk", and "eat", while building an understanding of their pet's communication skills, and at the same time, they'll learn how to look for progress and tips on being a great communication partner to breed results.

In her book, the New York Times best-seller 'How Stella Learned To Talk', Christina draws on her trained speech-language techniques to map out how readers can teach their own dogs to talk and shares the incredibly heart-warming exchanges she's had on the journey with Stella. When Christina brought her puppy home in early 2018, she started to notice all of the similarities between Stella's communication skills and those of toddlers right before they began saying words.

Coupled with her passion for using technology and other adaptive equipment to help people communicate when speaking is difficult, Christina's theory was put to the test when she developed a homemade device for Stella to try to say the words she was hearing and understanding. The buttons first started with simple commands and now, Stella has a bank of more than 45 words and counting that could be connected to express a combination of unique phrases and emotions.

Now leading global educational toys company Learning Resources® brings this recordable communication tool to dog-lovers around the world with the official licensed Hunger for Words™ range. With the help of the four recordable speech buttons and step-by-step guide written by Christina herself included in the original **Hunger for Words™ Talking Pet Starter Set**, dog-owners can communicate, play, and learn with their furry family members. This revolutionary tool will take pet owners on a journey that will bring them one step closer to building a deeper, meaningful relationship with their amazing pets.

"I am thrilled to have this opportunity to help bring adaptive communication into homes around the world, and to teach pet owners what they can do to foster their own dog or cat's communication potential," says Christina Hunger, founder and CEO of Hunger for Words. "Together, we are trailblazing a new era of interspecies communication."

Learn more about Hunger for Words: https://www.brightkins.co.uk/

NOTES TO EDITORS:

For media queries, contact Nicole Sparrow: <u>NicoleSparrow@learning-resources.co.uk</u>

ABOUT LEARNING RESOURCES®:

We're Learning Resources, and we've been helping parents and teachers build generations of amazing kids since 1984. From Maths and Literacy to Coding and STEM, our quality educational toys and games provide children with some of the building blocks they need to succeed in school and develop a lifelong love of learning. Founded in Chicago Illinois, family-owned Learning Resources provides over 1,000 different products to more than 80 countries. Learning Resources Ltd was founded in King's Lynn, Norfolk in 1994 to serve the European, Middle Eastern, African, and Indian markets.

ABOUT HUNGER FOR WORDS™:

Hunger for Words is an organisation dedicated to the belief that all species have something to say. Everyone has a voice and the potential to share it. By combining the fields of animal psychology, speech pathology, and AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) we are blazing the trail to unlock that potential. For more information, visit www.hungerforwords.com