

May 2nd - 8th

Be Kind To Animals Week

The Oconee Humane Society will celebrate the week by introducing a new K – 5 children’s program into all four Oconee County Public Libraries. The OHS has identified *Humane Education* as one of its strategic goals for this year. Research has established a correlation between adolescent animal abuse and other types of abuse and/or crime, later in life. To positively impact communities in the future, our next generation must be educated to be kinder to animals.

The “I Read to Animals” program has been developed by the well-known Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah. The children will be reading to pet-type animals (dogs, cats, bunnies, turtles and birds), doing related craft activities and adopting (stuffed) “shelter animals”, while learning about kindness and responsibility. In addition, the program encourages language and reading skills and helps increase children’s self-esteem and confidence. It has been met with great enthusiasm in other parts of the country.

The May dates at the libraries are as follows: Walhalla 5th, Seneca 12th, Westminster 19th & Salem 26th. The sessions will continue to be offered every Wednesday, on a rotating basis throughout the library system. The session times are from 4:00PM – 5:00PM and registration forms will be available at each library’s desk.

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