

Thursday, 27th May 2010

Made for each other

Nothing attracts children's attention like the sound of an animal, and it was animal sounds aplenty recently when the Wallan Play Group paid a visit to Edgar's Mission Farm Sanctuary at Willowmavin. Patting pigs, cuddling sheep and clucking with chickens taught gentle lessons of kindness for all beings, all the while bringing delighted smiles to both the children and their caregivers.

"Humans have cared for animals for thousands of years so it is only natural we have strong bonds with them. And for many children the first lessons in life they have about empathy come from their relationship with animals. Research has shown that children who have been exposed to farm animals from a young age tend to be better listeners, do well in school, and develop integrity and compassion above their age level" said sanctuary founder, Pam Ahern.

"I love feeding the sheep" remarked one little youngster while another chimed in "goats are cool!" A fun farm tour with all animals introduced and patted and the amazing maze negotiated followed by a well earned lunch ensured an afternoon nap would be none too far away for the little ones as they dreamed of their new farmyard friends.

Edgar's Mission not for profit farm sanctuary, with its over 200 rescued residents is open to visitors by appointment, volunteering positions are also available.

Photos attached for media use: large file photos available upon request

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