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Monkeys Don't Wear Diapers

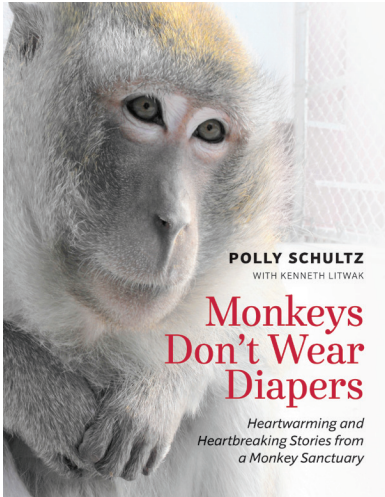
Author Polly Schultz provides insights into the remarkable lives of monkeys at OPR Coastal Primate Sanctuary

The legal and illegal trade in monkeys is staggering. These monkeys are almost always condemned to a horrible life, as even their most basic needs are well beyond the capacity of most people to handle.

In ***Monkeys Don't Wear Diapers: Heartwarming and Heartbreaking Stories from a Monkey Sanctuary***, author Polly Schultz tells the stories of a special group of monkeys who have come to **OPR Coastal Primate Sanctuary** (OPR)—which Schultz founded in 1998 and continues to direct today.

Some of the monkeys at OPR came from merely misinformed people who meant no harm, but were overwhelmed by the burden of caring for a monkey. Others were horribly mistreated by abusive owners, who reacted with anger or abandonment when the bewildered animal failed to become a tame and docile pet. Still others were retired from research institutions after they were no longer needed for experiments.

Each chapter of the book, published by **Animal Welfare Institute** (AWI) and co-authored by AWI laboratory animal advisor, Dr. Kenneth Litwak, gives the reader a brief glimpse into the life of a different monkey taken in by Schultz. She introduces readers to Summer, who was forced to wear a diaper, often unchanged for days, for over 15 years; George, who was stolen from the wild, drugged, and smuggled into the United States under the blouse of one of his traffickers; Ivan, who was literally scared of his own shadow; and many others who have had the eventual good fortune to land at the sanctuary.



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OPR Coastal Primate Sanctuary was founded in Dallas, Oregon, and relocated to donated land in Longview, Washington, in 2008. Schultz spends her days caring for the monkeys and working hard to give them the best possible life. Her dedication to the needs of these monkeys is profound—as is her insight into primate psychology and ability to see the humor in the toil and tribulations presented to her.

“I have learned a tremendous amount from monkeys over nearly 20 years of providing sanctuary for them,” said Schultz. “Each monkey is an individual who has specific needs, desires, and aspirations—not so different from people. They require a tremendous amount of work, love, patience, and attention, which I willingly give them. In return, they accept me into their world and I come out a much richer person.”

Monkeys Don't Wear Diapers: Heartwarming and Heartbreaking Stories from a Monkey Sanctuary aims to:

- present real life examples of monkeys who are negatively impacted by the pet trade;
- educate readers about the harsh reality of attempting to keep primates as pets;
- increase support for the sanctuaries, like OPR, that provide a humane and enriching environments for monkeys abandoned by or taken from private owners, or retired from research institutions; and
- encourage readers to contact legislators and urge them to support regulations to ban all sale and possession of monkeys for the pet trade.

Monkeys Don't Wear Diapers: Heartwarming and Heartbreaking Stories from a Monkey Sanctuary will be released in May 2015 and available for purchase primarily through AWI's website at a cost of \$6.00. To learn more about the book and to pre-order a copy, visit www.awionline.org/monkeys-dont-wear-diapers.

Publication Information

Monkeys Don't Wear Diapers: Heartwarming and Heartbreaking Stories from a Monkey Sanctuary

By Polly Schultz with Kenneth Litwak

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About the Authors



Polly Schultz' fascination with monkeys dates back to her early childhood. Her love and ability to understand and befriend all animals has always been a driving force in her life. Polly's unwavering dedication to help animals in need led to the creation of OPR Coastal Primate Sanctuary (originally as Oregon Primate Rescue) in 1998. Currently located in Longview, Washington, Polly spends her days caring for the monkeys and working hard to give them the best possible life. She lives onsite at OPR with her husband, Skip. Operating a sanctuary for special needs monkeys is labor intensive and requires constant supervision. Polly has not taken a vacation in nearly 20 years.



Kenneth Litwak DVM, PhD, is the laboratory animal advisor at the Animal Welfare Institute. He has authored or co-authored over 40 published scientific articles.

