

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

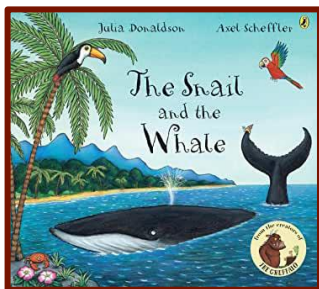


January 23, 2023

JOIN US!

- **January 29:** *Sunday Afternoons with Heber*, 2 PM
- **February 1:** *Soundside Science & Story Time* for ages 3-5, 10:15 AM
- **February 24:** *Taste of Core Sound* (more information coming soon!)

Sound Reading Material For You & Your Child



The Snail and the Whale

By Julia Donaldson

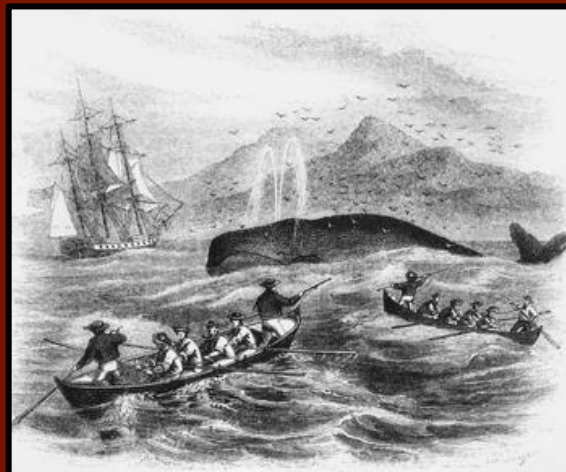
When a tiny snail meets a humpback whale, the two travel together to far-off lands. It's a dream come true for the snail, who has never left home before. But when the whale swims too close to shore, will the snail be able to save her new friend? This is a delightful tale of adventure and friendship.

Pages: 32
Grades: PreK - 2

Whale Tale

Whales were hunted commercially by Outer Banks fishermen in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Life along the Outer Banks was very different then than it is today. Our ancestors were isolated and poor and resourceful and self-sufficient. They did what was needed to survive and feed their families, and that at times meant hunting whales.

For nearly two centuries, beginning in the mid-1600s, residents along our coast engaged in shore-based whaling activities. They relied exclusively on "drift whales," blowers that became stranded in shallow water or that died at sea and washed ashore. Later, hunting whales became more active as crews ventured just off-shore in small boats rowed by four men. Most North Carolina whaling was based at Cape Lookout and Shackleford Banks. The season began in December and continued into June. The peak months were February, March, and April.



An 1856 engraving from Harper's Monthly showing small whaling boats like those launched by crews off the Outer Banks in the nineteenth century. --UNC-Chapel Hill Library

photos from www.ncpedia.org

The typical Outer Banks whaleboat was twenty to twenty-five feet long, high in both the bow and stern, and constructed with lapped planks. It was built to be rowed by four men with an additional fisherman acting as steersman, while a sixth, often the captain, remained in the bow, ready to throw the harpoon.

North Carolina whalers seldom maintained continuous contact with the harpooned whale. This may be the reason that no Outer Banks whaler is known to have been killed in pursuit of their catch.

I Spy

On January 11 Jan Tugwell was treated to a sighting that is especially rare. She and her friend Mike briefly visited Shark Island and then headed towards the lighthouse. Mike was aware of whales in the area but had never seen any firsthand. Then this happened! Jan shared the following about the memorable event:

“Mike spotted large splashes on the horizon a couple of miles away. We headed in that direction and were amazed to see what we think were two, possibly three, humpback whales ‘playing.’ They were slapping the water with their fins and tails and breaching every four to five minutes. We kept our distance and watched for almost ninety minutes as they traveled back and forth directly in front of the lighthouse. At my request, Mike was able to maneuver the boat so that the whales were between us and the lighthouse. I was able to get a couple of pictures and video to help remember this amazing day at Cape Lookout.”

Here are a few of those images captured by Jan. What an amazing sight on a very special day!



You Can Help Build Core Sound's New Lego Center



We need Legos! Whatever you have stashed away in a closet or attic, please, share! We are building a Lego Engineering Center in our Children's Area!

As you know, at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center we strive to engage even our youngest minds while visiting us! We are excited about the addition of Lego stations that will enable STEM activities and building for our young visitors.

LEGOs are some of the best hands-on tools for education. They make fantastic manipulatives for young children learning to count all the way through fractions and multiplication. They are great for fine motor skills and learning about engineering all types of structures. Legos are fun and provide opportunities for varieties of learning.

Please, drop your new or gently used Legos off at the Museum or at 806! Know that we will make good use of them, and all sizes are needed!