Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

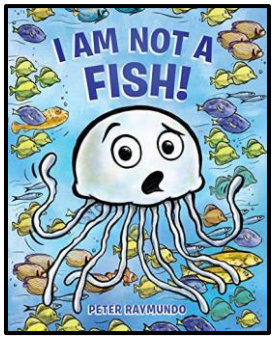
THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

July 10, 2023

COMING UP AT CORE SOUND…

- **July 13:** *806 Parlor Talk* "Coastal Songs—Old & New" by Connie Mason & friends @ 2:00 PM
- **July 11-13:** *Science All Around Us* for grades 1-3
- **July 18-20:** *Science All Around Us* for grades 4-6
- **July 24-26:** Teacher Workshop: "What Does Down East Really Mean?"

Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



I Am Not a Fish!

By Peter Raymundo

Edgar is a jellyfish, but he doesn't look, act, or feel very much like a "fish." With a little help though from some friendly starfish, Edgar realizes that labels aren't important, and he should celebrate what makes him unique!

This a humorous story from a former Disney animator, about a jellyfish with an identity crisis who learns how to be himself with a little help from friends.

Pages: 32
Grades: preK-1st

A Picture's Worth

This past Saturday was wonderful! So much so that words can't do it justice, so, please, enjoy some of the beautiful images I captured at our All-American Shrimp Fry that was held in honor of all our community leaders.

Cannonball!

The cannonball jellyfish, Stomolophus meleagris, is a species of jellyfish in the family Stomolophidae. Its common name derives from its similarity to a cannonball in shape and size. It is the most common jellyfish found in our area. These jellyfish, also known as a jellyball, are easy to identify by their light bells with chocolate-brown bands; they have no tentacles, just fingerlike appendages hanging down from the bell.

While this species is the most abundant jelly, it is also the least harmful to humans for it has the weakest sting of all jellies found in local waters. It can secrete a toxin, but it does not have the long, stinging tentacles normally associated with jellyfish. Instead, it has short oral arms that give rise to its scientific name, which means "many mouthed hunter."

The cannonball jellyfish is a carnivore that feeds on fish eggs, red drum fish larvae, and planktonic larvae of mollusks and snails. It feeds by sucking water into its mouth fold when its bell contracts.

Most jellyfish are at the mercy of the wind and waves for movement, but the cannonball uses its oral arms to swim! When it is disturbed, the cannonball jellyfish dives deeper into the water and releases toxin-containing mucus. The toxin drives away most predators and may help the cannonball trap and disable small prey.

The jellyfish can sense light, gravity, and touch. While social communication between cannonballs is not well-understood, sometimes the jellyfish are seen in large groups. Their numbers are highly dependent on water temperature. The cannonball thrives in saltwater with a temperature around 74 degrees Fahrenheit. This species is also affected by water pollution, algae blooms, and prey density.

cannonball jellyfish held by my cousin at the Hook of the Cape *photo by Billi Paylor Robbins*

SCIENCE FOR YOU

Jellyfish in a Bottle

This activity will show that air is lighter than water, so no matter which way you turn your bottle, the jellyfish head will rise towards the top!

*First, cut open a plastic Ziploc bag on all sides. You will only need one side of the bag for this project. Use the side that has no writing on it.

*Place your finger in the center of the bag. This will become the jellyfish's head. The bigger your jellyfish's head, the more like a jellyfish she will be.

*Draw a circle around the center of the bag so you can mark where your jellyfish's head will go. Tie a piece of string along the marked line.

*Cut the bottom of the bag into little strips. Cut off about 2/3rds of the plastic's bulk, so you are left with eight or so thin strips hanging down.

*Reopen your jellyfish's head and grasp it between two fingers, leaving the bottom open. Fill the jellyfish's head halfway with water.

*Retie the bottom. Hang it upside down so it won't leak while you work on the next part.

*Add only 1 small drop of blue food coloring to the water. Keep the water light blue so it won't be hard to see your jellyfish. Fill the bottle with water.

*Gently push the jellyfish into the bottle's opening and arrange it with the head up. Screw the lid on the bottle.