

Soundside Learning

This Week On The Sound



Students work together to pull a net onto the shore
Photo: Core Sound Waterfowl Museum Collection

Net Gains...

Teamwork, Education, & Fun!

It was a wonderful week at Core Sound as students learned about how many of their ancestors worked the water to provide for their families and how our local fishermen use science to predict fish movements by closely tracking wind direction, moon phase, and tide to choose the best conditions in which to fish!

1

OUR HISTORY

Students learned about the commercial fishermen of Core Sound & experienced some fishing practices first hand!

2

OUR HERITAGE

We learned about why Core Sound and its waters are and always have been the "glue" that ties the Down East communities together!

3

THE SCIENCE

Students learned about the role that wind, moon phase, and tide play in the habits of fish and how fishermen track these variables!



Sound Reading Material For You & Your Child

Wild Geese Flying
By: Deborah Van Dyken & Jamison Ipock

A little boy named Alex learns about the wild geese who fly in the sky over the coastal waters of North Carolina. By day, his grandfather introduces him to the traditional art of carving decoys of ducks and geese in his workshop, and by night, the geese take Alex on the adventure of a lifetime

Did You Know?

Canadian Geese exhibit one of the widest ranges of size out of any bird species in the world. Some adult geese can weigh as much as eleven pounds, while others are only three.

In Lookout's Light...

162 Years...And Counting

On November 1st, 1859 the Cape Lookout Lighthouse was lit for the first time following two years of construction on the one hundred sixty three-foot tall tower. It would not be until the 1870 completion of the new Cape Hatteras Light, standing two hundred feet tall, that the Cape Lookout structure would be dwarfed. As of November 1st, 2021, the Cape Lookout Light has functioned for 162 years.

From its first lighting, the Cape Lookout Light was equipped with a first-order Fresnel Lens, known as the “invention that saved a million ships.” The lens consisted of three hundred and seventy individual prisms of glass, allowing for the magnification of light many times its original strength. The rotation of the lens around the central light source gave the Cape Lookout Lighthouse its signature fifteen-second flash pattern.

In 1873 the Lighthouse was painted with its now-famous black and white diamond checkerboard pattern, from which the nearby community of Diamond City on Shackleford Banks eventually derived its name.



Cape Lookout Lighthouse, Circa 1900
Photo: NC State Archives



[Click here](#) or search *Core Sound Soundside Learning* to follow us and keep up with what's going on “around the sound”.

CORE SOUND EDUCATIONAL SPOTLIGHT: RALPH WALKER LAWRENCE (1935-2016)

Born and raised in Bettie, NC, Ralph Walker Lawrence joined the United States Coast Guard at the age of seventeen and would go on to serve twenty five years, retiring as a Commander in 1977. Following his career in the U.S. Coast Guard, Lawrence established a maritime academy out of his home in Bettie where young men and women aspiring to obtain their U.S. Coast Guard mariner credentials, needed for employment in the merchant marine, could obtain such certificates. Over the course of the academy's existence, dozens of Down Easters studied and obtained their certificates under Lawrence's instruction. In addition to this work, Lawrence was also employed by the North Carolina Ferry Division and assigned to the design work for several of the state's new ferries. He retired from this role in 1998.



Commander Lawrence,
Circa 1977
Photo: Lawrence Family Collection