

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

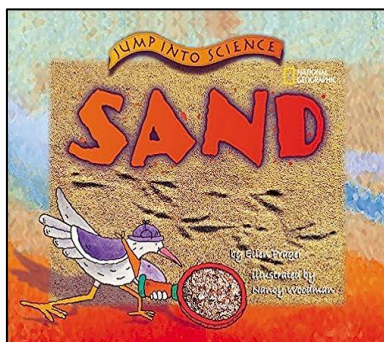


July 17, 2023

COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **July 18-20:** Camp for rising 4th-6th graders "Science All Around Us"
- **July 20:** *806 Parlor Talk* "Portsmouth Island Decoys" by Robbie Smith @ 2:00 PM
- **July 24-26:** Teacher Workshop: "What Does Down East Really Mean?"

Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



Jump Into Science: Sand

What is sand? How is it formed? Where does sand come from? How does it get to the beach? Why is it different colors? Let the sandpiper sleuth show you the answers to these questions in this lively, collage-style look at a familiar substance that's never been so fascinating: sand.

This book is a Parents' Choice Approved Winner!

Pages: 32
Grades: preK-1st

A Camp's Story

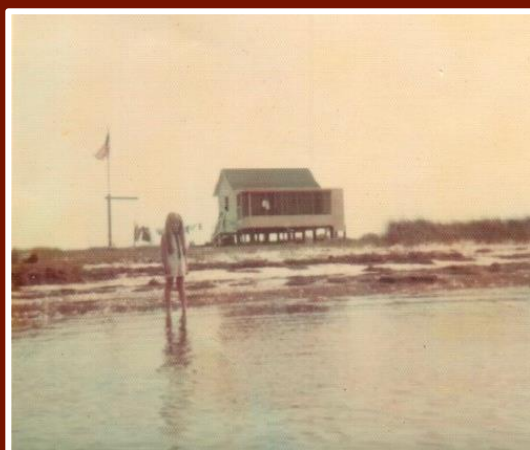
I was just a camp, that's what some folks think. But they don't know my story. A story of love, family, heritage, and simplicity. A story I recognized as special and sweet while it unfolded, and one that I'm grateful is mine ...

In the fall of 1973, a young Island father walked my future grounds and decided, "This is it!" Within weeks my construction began with boatloads of lumber and nails delivered and assembled mostly by this man. Occasionally he was accompanied by a few others, but his solitary presence is what I recall.

It wasn't long before I was complete atop three-foot pilons with windows, fresh-water pumps, a gas fridge and stove, two porches (the back one was screened!), sinks, bunk beds, a clothesline, and even a dock made from old light poles. I was named "Sand Trap" for I really trapped the sand, even though Dad often laughed as Mom constantly shook out all the scatter rugs to keep the sand outside! What a special bond I formed with this family of five.

For several years I watched my family laugh and grow. What fun those three little girls had making their way along the path that led them from my back door to the Atlantic Ocean. Their return was always a joy for Mom had set a tub of fresh water in the sun before they left so they could bathe warmly on my back porch. After baths were done and a supper of fried potatoes on fresh bread was enjoyed, tiny fingers would lay their seashell treasures in the sun to dry. A few prized shells with perfect holes were transformed into necklaces with the help of Dad and his twine. Dwayna, Tonya, and Staci wore those jewels with pride.

As night fell upon us, prayers were offered for this piece of heaven we shared on Shackleford Banks. With windows raised and salty winds ablow, eagerness patiently waited on my porch for everyone to enjoy tomorrow, for now a sunshiny-wave-induced sleep like no other ended another fine day for all of us at the Sand Trap.



Dwayna Davis Styron on the shore of the camp built by Daddy, Wayne Davis



Mama, Lana Hancock Davis, outside the Sand Trap

Granular Matters

Did you know that most sand is made up of quartz and up to fifteen percent crushed shells? Weight of sand varies in different areas of our beaches; for instance, the sand on dunes is generally lighter than that on the beach which is why it more easily blows in the wind.

The slope of our beaches is determined by the sands' grain sizes and abilities to absorb water. Beaches with finer sand are usually flatter, with moderate slopes than beaches with thicker grains. Fine sands absorb relatively little water; most of the water that flows up the beach flows back down it. This backwash tends to move the sand seaward and, in turn, flatten the beach.

North Carolina's rivers empty into our extensive sound and estuary system. Most sand on our beaches comes to us by longshore currents, movement of sand up and down the coast by wave action, and by beach-building waves that bring sand from offshore storage areas such as sandbars, ebb and flood tide deltas, and the capes. Beaches tend to build up during the low-energy waves of summer. Winter's high-energy waves take the sand away and store it in offshore sandbars.

Quartz, feldspar, and shells are the most common materials on our beaches. Bits of other minerals, including magnetite and garnet, and pea gravel may also be found. Small areas of shell hash can be discovered up and down our coast. These topographies are created by a combination of waves and currents.

Color offers evidence for source materials. Tan, gray or brown sand particles may be quartz or feldspar. Black or gray particles may be ilmenite or magnetite. Mica is silvery black or gray. And shells are purple, white, black, or brown. Be sure to take the time to observe the beauty of beach sand. Its shapes, sizes, and colors will reveal stories about the uniqueness of our shores.



Cape Lookout beach photo from <https://www.cbs17.com>



Sand Science

- Spread some sand on a black sheet of paper. Spread it thin enough to see individual grains of sand.
- Look at the sand through a magnifying glass. At first glance, sand may look like it is all one color. Notice the different colors, shapes, & sizes.
- If you notice any small, jewel-like grains of sand they are most likely pieces of broken glass that have been smoothed by the waves & sand.
- Next, place a small pile of sand on the black paper. Drop a few drops of vinegar onto the pile & observe what happens.
- If you see tiny bubbles in the sand or bubbling and popping sounds when you add vinegar, it means the grains of sand were once part of a living being such as coral, shells, or bone. The acid of the vinegar reacts with the calcium carbonate in the grains of sand which creates carbon dioxide bubbles as it dissolves.

