

# SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

## THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

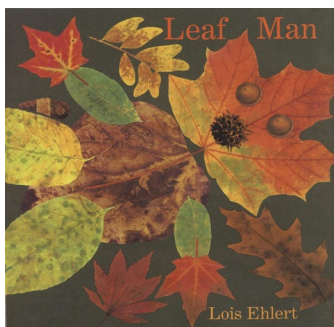


November 13, 2023

### COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **November 17:** Gallery of Trees Begins @ 7 PM
- **November 25:** Christmas Market 2023
- **December 1:** Core Sound Chow Down @ 4:30-9:30 PM
- **December 2-3:** Waterfowl Weekend

### Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



#### Leaf Man

By Lois Ehlert

Fall has come, the wind is gusting, and Leaf Man is on the move. Is he drifting east, over the marsh and ducks and geese? Or is he heading west, above the orchards, prairie meadows, and spotted cows? No one's quite sure, but this much is certain: A Leaf Man's got to go where the wind blows.

Each illustration is crafted of actual fall leaves on every spread to reveal gorgeous landscapes. This playful and whimsical book celebrates the rich imaginative life of children.

Pages: 40

Grades: preK-1st

### Time to Honk

Along our coast, one of my favorite sounds is the characteristic "honk" of our geese! Migratory Canada geese start to arrive in our area from their northern breeding locations in early October, but most birds do not arrive until mid-December. Return migration occurs from mid-February to late March. Flock sizes increase during fall and winter especially where migrant populations congregate.

Canada geese are almost exclusively herbivores, feeding on seeds and leaves of a wide variety of plant species. Examples of preferred foods include lawn and natural grasses, clover, winter wheat and various aquatic plants. During fall and winter, waste corn is an important food item. Breeding and nesting habitat varies widely but generally includes elevated grassy areas. Resident Canada geese in North Carolina nest in a variety of habitats including farm ponds, beaver ponds, and ponds found in housing developments. Canada geese will readily nest on constructed platforms built specifically for that purpose.

Males are called ganders, and females are called geese. Drakes and hens usually bond for life. If one dies another mate is found. Adults raise a single clutch--the total number of eggs laid in one nesting attempt--each year. In our area, a second nest may be attempted if the first nest fails. Baby geese, called goslings, have an incubation period of 25-30 days. Families remain together at least until after the young can fly and the adults have completed their molt.



photo from <https://www.ncpedia.org/canada-goose-nc-wins>

# Growing Up Down East

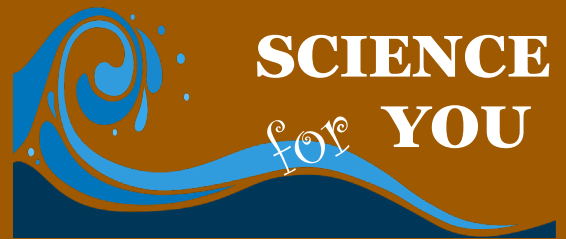
by Melodie Gillikin Willis

Although I didn't move to Otway until I was five, I was a Down Easter from birth. My dad was from Otway, and by that, I mean born and bred on Firetower Road. I remember being so excited that we were moving because that meant I would be close to my grandparents, cousins, and other family members. I knew that meant homemade lightnin' rolls on Sundays and that we could have a garden in our back yard and I could eat all of the fried okra I wanted. What I didn't know then that I know now is that it also meant having a tree swing made of an old tire and a shed out back where I could clean and sort my shells when we came home from the Cape on weekends. I remember riding bikes with my mom, dad, and little brother to get ice cream and candy at Leolden's store. That was the best lemon ice cream ever. I loved living across the street from the parsonage as well. For some reason that always made me feel safe.

Growing up Down East meant always having someone to call for help or somewhere to go for a large meal full of laughter and fun stories. I spent a lot of time with my grandma Melva when I was young, and she was always participating in events with the church. She would take me to revivals, choir practice, and shopping trips with her friends. Those were some of my favorite memories with her.

Some other memories are far from what we could consider safe in today's world, but I remember them with an innocence and sense of pride when I tell the stories to my own kids. One of those memories was when I learned how to drive a car at the age of 13. It was an old, straight shift truck and it would often backfire when started. My dad taught me how to drive in our backyard and we would drive down to the marsh and check our crab pots. I would volunteer to hang laundry on the clothesline if I could drive the truck from the front yard to the backyard to do it. Little did I know at the time that I really didn't have a choice, my mom just made it look like I had negotiated a deal with her. Another memory would be learning to ride a bike and roller skate on the road in front of the house and I am pretty sure we had never even considered a helmet, much less used one. I can also still see myself standing up beside my dad in his truck with my arm around his neck when we would go to my grandparents' house. The truck probably didn't even have a seatbelt. Pretty sure none of those things would be considered "the norm" these days.

Growing up Down East meant, and still means, always having a tribe of my own. It meant learning how to do things that were not always easy but necessary. It meant more family time because there weren't restaurants and stores to go to every night. It meant eating the seafood we caught and the vegetables we grew. It meant playing outside covered in bug spray and drinking out of the water hose. It meant life was simple, slow-paced, and memorable.



## Make a Leaf Vein Rubbing

1. Place a leaf on a 9 x 12 Clipboard (it helps to hold everything in place as we created our prints).
2. Cover the leaf with the piece of paper you are using for the activity.
3. Slowly, use your medium (crayons, colored pencils or oil pastels). Rub it over the top of the paper to see the outline and details of the leaf.
4. There are many ways to do this activity! Feel free to mix and match types of papers and drawing supplies in any way you'd like to for the project.

