

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND

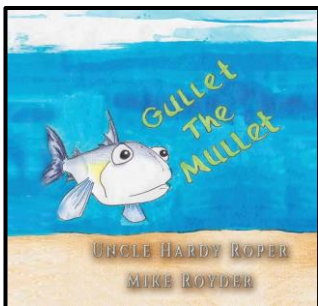


September 4, 2023

COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **September 12:** Community Night, "Remembering Florence - Five Years Later - and Isabel - 20 Years Later" 6-9 PM
- **September 20:** Preschool Mornings Begin

Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



Gullet the Mullet

By Uncle Hardy Roper

What happens when one day Gullet the Mullet is with his school friends swimming and playing together until the tide rushes out unexpectedly? Gullet is accidentally left behind. How is Gullet going to survive alone?

Up until this moment, someone has helped Gullet think through things, even made decisions for him. So now what? See how Gullet learns he can do things for himself.

Pages: 38
Grades: K-1

Playing for Keeps

When I was a little girl, my family lived in a split-level home built by my father. By the time I was six years old, I loved to play pretend in our yard under the pines. One day, however, I discovered a secret treasure-trove of surprises ... underneath the upstairs portion of my own house!

There I found a small, wooden door painted white that for some reason I had ignored until one fall day after school. After unlatching the door and pulling it open, it took a few minutes for my eyes to adjust to the thick darkness before me. I noticed a flashlight beside the door, grabbed it, and stepped inside.

The room was damp with a floor of dirt and a ceiling of tar paper. There were columns strategically placed to support the foundation of the raised level. It was like entering another world and an engulfing quietness stirred my imagination.

After exploring a short while, my eyes landed on several, small, round balls near a back corner of the room. The spheres had varying shapes, sizes, colors and designs. When I asked Mama what I'd found, she smiled, nodded her head, and told me to ask Daddy when he got home.

That afternoon when Daddy got home from work, I was introduced to marbles! I learned of his boyhood love for them as he shared stories of Curt, Dale, and him drawing rings in the dirt. He described how they knuckled down to launch their shooter at each other's marbles praying for stickers so they'd get another shot. Sometimes the stakes were bragging rights; other times they played for keeps, especially if he played against some of the older neighborhood boys.

Marbles was a game played during school recess or in driveways at homes. Many pairs of pant knees were sullied due to vigorous games anywhere a smooth spot of dirt was found. The many stories I've heard of how close Daddy at times came to losing all his marbles make that "secret" room one of my best childhood discoveries, ever.



photo from blainecountyjournal.com

Playing Marbles

a lesson in velocity: the greater the force, the greater the change in speed



Nothing's more fun than a game of marbles with friends. You can join in on this classic pastime if you have a friend, some chalk or a stick, and plenty of marbles with which to compete.

1. **Draw a circle on the pavement in chalk or in the dirt with a stick.** A traditional circle should be a couple of feet across. This will be your marble ring during the game. Draw the circle as evenly as you can to ensure a fair game.
2. **Choose a shooter marble.** Your shooter marble will be what you use to knock other marbles out of the circle later. Some choose a marble bigger than the other marbles, so it has plenty of power. Qualities of a good shooter marble include a heavier weight and balanced symmetry.
3. **Place some marbles in the center of the ring.** Each player places the same amount. Space the marbles so they evenly fill the ring but try to place the majority near the center.
4. **Decide whether you want to play for keeps.** Marbles can be played either "for fair," which means that every player keeps their marbles or "for keeps," which means marbles can be won by other players by knocking them out of the ring.
5. **Click here to learn how to shoot!**

[MARBLES](#)



Mullet Blow Time

Cooler winds and gusts from the northeast, ahhhh, that's what I look forward to when August comes to a close. This is not only when we get a reprieve from summer's oppressive heat, but it is also when mullets decide to head south for their winter spawn marking the start of fall fishing along our coast.

Over the years, mullet blows have taken place from late August to early September even if it isn't yet officially fall. The migration of these fish from creeks and sounds signals our unofficial fall to begin. Drum, flounder, and speckled trout head out the inlets and to our beaches where cooler temperatures create cooler waters.

So, whether you call it a mullet blow or a gale, the time has come for mullets to soon begin appearing on many of our dinner tables. I prefer mine charcoaled, but fried will do just fine, too!



a cooler of mullets



a camp of mullet fishermen on Shackleford Banks around 1940