



"They wanted to *retain the casualness* of a day *at the beach*—coming in with sandy feet, making sandwiches, and *playing games*"







THAT SENSE OF LOW-KEY FUN CONTINUES UPSTAIRS IN THE BUNK ROOM, where Birkerts and Myer dreamed up a camp-like haven for the Kubik children. Steel boat ladders access built-in beds with drawers for storage. Retro ceiling fans, nubby quilts, and bright printed throw pillows add a sense of whimsy. "Kids love places that invite them to use their imaginations, and that's what this whole house does," Kubik says. "It has nooks and crannies. There are always blankets being hung up and forts being designed."

Kubik, however, doesn't have to build a fort to take a break from the rest of the world. Birkerts created a peaceful master bedroom that lets in the surrounding sea thanks to an expansive wall of windows. Soft white walls reflect the flooding light, while floors painted a subtle, light turquoise channel the waves right outside. An oversize ceiling fan with blades reminiscent of boat sails hums overhead, circulating ocean breezes throughout the space.

What started, for Kubik, as a monument to the past has become more and more like home. While she still fondly recalls the house's previous owner and his trusty rocking chair, she is busy filling each room with new memories: shells the children brought home on their last trip down to the water, or the new green door that welcomes passersby who end up becoming friends. "A house this distinctive needed a distinctive color," says Birkerts. "I wanted it to become second nature for Anne to say, 'Come to the house with the bright green door.' "

For more information, see Sources, page 114.

Brooke Showell is a freelance writer and editor specializing in lifestyle and home design. She is based in New York City.

