



One of our most rewarding experiences with moose began as we watched Billi led her four-month-old twins, male Sid and female Shea, to the edge of a lake. Instead of taking the most efficient route along the water's edge to her destination on the far side, she appeared to pause and then deliberately lead the calves on a diversion. Billi went to a central peninsula that partially bisects the lake's narrowest point and proceeded to swim across the strait to the far side. Both calves approached the lake quite tentatively at first, apparently not excited about the idea of plunging into the water. But Billi's choice of the peninsula discouraged them from circumnavigation. Sid plunged into the water first and very capably swam across to join mom. Billi then waited patiently for Shea. The calf struggled for some time with her options, but she too finally crossed with ease. Mom had clearly orchestrated her route to give her twins an important swimming lesson. But moose can multi-task in the water too...

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