ELINOR'S TOWN

EP 101 THE TOWN PICNIC

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Elinor's Question: How can we make the ketchup flow?

Logline: Elinor and friends learn how bees make honey from nectar, and solve the sticky ketchup problem.

Curriculum Goals:

NOTE: Sara suggests the Life Science Goal is not met in this draft: LS3a: Observe ways that animals and plants get what they need to live and grow. (How bees make honey from nectar)

ND3: Understand that structures and materials in the natural world can be used or can inspire the engineering of structures with similar function in the designed world. (Goopiness of the honey inspires the solution to goopiness of the ketchup)

SEP1a: Demonstrate curiosity about the greater world outside of their local environment. (Elinor is curious about the bee and how it makes honey)

SEP3e: Design and build a solution to a simple problem (add water to the goopy ketchup)

SEP6a: Use background knowledge experiences, and data to construct reasonable explanations and theories of natural phenomena. (They understand the honey's goopiness)

Sara's suggested Goals: One of the earth science performance expectations in the NGSS states "Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs. K-ESS2-2". The kids are discovering That some liquids in their natural evironment flow slowly and some flow fast. They learn that this can be changed by adding water. The framework goal this relates most closely with would be an in the earth systems strand that says "Understand that plants and animals can change their environment" I don't think the life science goal is a measurable learning expectation for this episode.

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1 **EXT. A CLEARING IN THE FOREST - DAY, DAY 1** 1

Title Card: “The Town Picnic”

It’s the day of the Annual Animal Town Picnic! Everyone is gathered at a clearing in the forest. There are vegetable stands and different activities in the background. ELINOR and her mother are walking around the picnic grounds.

1 ELINOR 1
I just love the Town Picnic. What *
should we do first, Mom?

2 RANGER RABBIT 2
I don’t know, Elinor. Let’s see... *
(She looks around) *
Ooh, we can do wood-carving with
Mrs. Beaver.

We look over to Mrs. Beaver, who is speedily carving an elaborate statue from a stump of wood using her teeth.

3 ELINOR 3
(Excited) Ooh, yeah!

4 RANGER RABBIT 4
Or... Mr. Horse is giving everyone
hayrides.

We look over to Mr. Horse straining to pull a hay cart with the entire Hippo family on it.

5 ELINOR 5
(Ready to dash in that
direction) *
Awesome! *

6 RANGER RABBIT 6
Or... We could watch Mr. Cat at the
dunking booth.

We see Mr. Cat, looking at the water tank nervously as little Suzie Aardvark prepares to throw a ball.

7 ELINOR 7
(Still excited) *
Woo hoo! *

We hear an off-screen <SFX:SPLASH> from the Dunk tank. *

Suddenly, Elinor's friend HAZEL calls out to them. Hazel is standing in a line next their friend ARI.

8 HAZEL 8
Elinor! Over here!

9 ELINOR 9
Look, it’s Hazel and Ari!

10 RANGER RABBIT 10
Go ahead, honey. I have to talk to Deputy Mouse.

Elinor scampers over to Ari and Hazel. Elinor's mother stays behind chatting with JOE MOUSE. Ari and Hazel are in a long line with other animals. Ari is holding a sandwich.

11 ELINOR 11
Hi, Ari! Hi, Hazel! Whatcha doing?

12 HAZEL 12
Ari is waiting in line for ketchup.

13 ELINOR 13
Ketchup?

14 ARI 14
Not just *any* ketchup... I'm waiting in line for Mrs. Gorilla’s *super* special, World Famous, awesome ketchup!

15 HAZEL 15
It's his favorite.

16 ARI 16
It’s everyone’s favorite! That’s why you have to get in line early. I can't wait to put it on my sandwich!

17 ELINOR 17
Oooh..Sounds yummy. Can I join you?

18 HAZEL 18
Of course!

Elinor joins the line with Ari and Hazel. After a few beats, it becomes clear that the line is not moving.

19 ELINOR 19
Uh... we're not moving.

20 HAZEL 20
I know!

21 ARI 21
We've been here forever! Even that snail is moving faster than we are! *

ANGLE ON: a snail inching its way across a nearby log.

BACK ON: Ari puts his hands on his hips and looks down the line. Hazel shrugs and pulls her Nature book out of her satchel. Elinor sighs a deep sigh.

22 ELINOR 22
Sigh...

Suddenly, a bee passes by, which catches Elinor's attention. She watches as the bee stops at a flower to drink its nectar and then flies off. Elinor looks interested.

Ari's stomach <SFX: GRUMBLES>. *

23 ARI 23
Oh, I hope the line moves soon, I'm getting hungry!
(To Hazel) *
I heard that Mrs. Gorilla has a *new* * recipe this year. It's supposed to be even better than last year's!

24 HAZEL 24
(Without looking up from her book) *
Well, I hope it's worth all this waiting... Right, Elinor?

PAN TO REVEAL: Elinor is no longer there. *

25 HAZEL (CONT'D) 25
Elinor?

CUT TO:

2 EXT. SOME DISTANCE AWAY, NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CLEARING -- DAY, CONTINUOUS 2

Elinor is curiously following the bee from a safe distance as it hops from flower to flower. She passes Ranger Rabbit and Deputy Mouse. *

26 RANGER RABBIT 26
Oh, hi, honey.

27 ELINOR 27
I'm following a beeeee!

Ranger Rabbit scratches her head and waves after her. Elinor keeps following the bee along the edge of the picnic grounds. After the bee leaves a flower, Elinor looks closely and sees the watery nectar the bee was drinking. The bee moves on and Elinor follows it over a narrow and very shallow stream * nearby, skipping over some stones to cross. Finally, the bee reaches a tree, where a high branch holds a beehive. Elinor sees something cool.

28 ELINOR (CONT'D) 28
Ooooooohhh!

CUT TO:

3 **EXT. THE NARROW STREAM NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CLEARING -- DAY,** 3
CONTINOUS

We see Ari and Hazel cross the stream and walk into the trees looking for Elinor. (NOTE: The picnic grounds are visible in the background).

29 HAZEL 29
Elinor! Where are you?

Suddenly, Elinor calls out to them.

30 ELINOR 30
Hazel! Ari! Stop!!!

Ari and Hazel freeze.

31 ELINOR (CONT’D) 31
Don’t. Move. You are about to get honeyed.

Ari and Hazel look up to where Elinor is pointing. High above them is the bee hive, buzzing with a couple of bees. Some of the honey from the hive has dripped down from branch to branch and there's a big glop of it on a branch right over Hazel and Ari's head that's about to drop.

32 ARI 32
Aah!

There’s a dramatic moment.

33 HAZEL 33
Aaaah!

Nothing happens.

The honey is really gooey and the drop just stretches in slow motion but doesn't droop down just yet. The friends are surprised.

Elinor looks puzzled.

34 ELINOR 34
Hmm?

She jumps up and down to get a closer look at the glop of honey.

35 ELINOR (CONT'D) 35
(In between jumps) That's... SO... *
Interesting! The honey is sooooo *
goopy! *

Hazel stands on her tippy-toes trying to get a look. *

36 HAZEL 36
I can't see!

Ari flies up to see it. *

37 ARI 37 *
It moves so slowly... *

Back on the ground, Elinor looks puzzled.

38 ELINOR 38
I wonder why. *

Ari rejoins her. *

39 ARI 39
Yeah...

40 ELINOR 40
I saw the bee get the juice from the flower, but that juice was really watery! How do the bees turn something so runny into something so goopy?

41 ARI 41
Hmmm... Maybe they cook it! (He mimics a stirring motion) Like soup!

42 ELINOR 42
Yeah! Or maybe they squeeeeze it!

Suddenly, Hazel remembers something.

43 HAZEL 43
Wait, I just saw this in my Nature book!

She takes out her Nature book again and opens it. ANGLE ON: We see the book from behind her, and we see the illustrations come to life as Hazel narrates. (NB The books are in a cartoony style a'la the pilot). *
*

44 HAZEL (O.S.) (CONT'D) 44 *
It says here that bees get the nectar (that's the juice from the flower) and then they bring it back to the bee hive.

The illustrations show a bee collecting nectar, then flying back to the hive, where it spits the nectar out into a honeycomb.

ON: Ari

45 ARI 45
(Making a face) Whoa! That's cool...

BACK ON: The book.

46 HAZEL (O.S.) 46
Then the bees use their wings to fan it, and that takes out some of the water that's inside of the flower juice.

We see the bees flapping their wings at the nectar. Little water droplet icons flutter away from it until the nectar turns into golden honey.

47 HAZEL (CONT'D) 47
The bees turn the juice into honey because it lasts longer and takes up less space.

48 ELINOR 48
Ohhh... so taking the water out is what makes honey goopy!

49 ARI 49
That's awesome!

Ari flaps his wings at Elinor and Hazel, blowing them with a gust of wind. The kids laugh.

When the dust settles, Elinor looks up at the bee hive.

50 ELINOR 50
Hmm, let's see what *other* goopy things we can find! We need MORE OBSERVATIONS!

With that, we hear the beginning of a ditty:

51 ELINOR, HAZEL AND ARI 51
(singing) *
Some things are goopy,
others runny and soupy!
Goopy things move really slow,
Runny things really go! *

All around us we can see
Things are goopy or watery
In the stream or in the tree
(in reference to the tree)
Interesting for you and me!

As they sing, the kids revisit the flower and its nectar, and also revisit the beehive and the slow-flowing honey glop. The song ends with the kids in the same spot where the song started and they are laughing again.

Suddenly, we pick up the drama again, and we see the honey drop is actually about to drop this time. Elinor notices it.

It looks like it’s about to fall on Hazel.

52 HAZEL 52
(Shielding her head) *
Oh no! *

Right as the drop is about to fall on her, Ari jumps up and intercepts the glop. He lands back down and is now covered in honey.

53 ELINOR 53
Ari!

54 HAZEL 54
Are you ok!? You saved me!

55 ARI 55
(Wiping honey off his eyes)
My mom always says I’m really
(licking the honey) sweet.

The kids giggle.

56 HAZEL 56
How are we going to get all this goopy honey off you?

Elinor pokes at the honey with her finger.

57 ELINOR 57
It's so gooey.

She has an idea.

58 ELINOR (CONT'D) 58
Hmm, I wonder... if taking the water OUT makes the honey goopy and slow... then maybe putting water back IN will make it runnier and... *less* goopy? *

Hazel catches on.

59 HAZEL 59
We need water!

Hazel runs back to the stream and sucks up a trunk-full of water. She runs back and douses Ari. Ari, now soaked, is able to clear his eyes.

Elinor watches as the honey turns more liquidy by the water and starts to run off Ari.

60 ELINOR 60
Taking water OUT made the honey goopy, and adding water back IN made it runnier!

Ari beats his wings to dry off, sending water droplets in the direction of Elinor and Hazel.

61 ELINOR AND HAZEL 61
Ah!/Hey!

62 ARI 62
Sorry!

They giggle. At that moment, Ari's stomach growls again.

63 ARI (CONT'D) 63
Uh... I'm glad we figured that out, but can we go back to my sandwich, please? *

His stomach growls again.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

4 **EXT. THE TOWN PICNIC LINE FOR KETCHUP -- DAY, SHORTLY AFTER** 4

Elinor and her friends come back to the same spot they were before, and one of the kids waiting in line hands Ari back his sandwich.

64 HAZEL 64
The line hasn’t moved!

65 ARI 65
No one has gotten their ketchup??

The animals in line shrug. We hear some of their stomachs grumbling.

Elinor looks curious again.

66 ELINOR 66
Hmmm... I wonder why? Let's find out!

Elinor walks towards the head of the line in search of answers.

CUT TO:

5 **EXT. THE TOWN PICNIC, MRS. GORILLA’S KETCHUP STAND -- DAY, CONTINUOUS** 5

Elinor and her friends arrive at the head of the line. We see there’s a bit of a commotion.

Elinor's Mom seems to be mediating between an exasperated MRS. GORILLA and some hungry animals in line.

67 MRS. GORILLA 67
Nobody appreciates quality!

68 ALEJANDRO POSSUM 68
But I’m hungry!

69 ELINOR 69
Mom, what’s going on?

70 RANGER RABBIT 70
Oh hi, Elinor. Well... Mrs. Gorilla has made her delicious ketchup, but it's SO goopy it takes a long time to come out of the bottle!

Elinor and her friends look closely at the bottle of ketchup that Alejandro Possum is holding over his sandwich. They see that the ketchup barely flows at all.

71 ALEJANDRO POSSUM 71
I've been here all day and my arm is getting tired!

72 MRS. GORILLA 72
It's worth the wait! Fine eating takes time! If it isn't goopy, it isn't good!

The animals in line start to get restless.

73 RANGER RABBIT 73
Let's calm down, everyone...

74 ARI 74
(Whispering to Hazel and Elinor)
We have a saucy situation!

Ari goes up to Alejandro Possum. *

75 ARI (CONT'D) 75 *
Can I try? *

He takes the bottle of ketchup from Alejandro and goes through several contortions with the bottle trying to get the sauce to flow faster. He fails. Hazel goes up to Ari. *

76 HAZEL 76 *
Here, let me. *

She gives it a try and shakes the bottle with her trunk, but nothing happens. *

Elinor, who's been watching her friends, sees the ketchup barely moving and seems to have a thought.

77 ELINOR 77
Ari, Hazel... I wonder if we can solve the ketchup problem in the same way we solved the honey problem...

78 HAZEL 78
You mean..?

79 ARI 79
Add water to it!

80 ELINOR 80
(To Mrs. Gorilla)
May we try changing something in your ketchup, Mrs. Gorilla?

81 MRS. GORILLA 81
But, I’ve been working on this recipe for a whole year to make it delicious!

82 RANGER RABBIT 82
(Gently) Mrs. Gorilla... sometimes to solve a problem, you have to be willing to try something new.

Mrs. Gorilla begrudgingly moves aside. Elinor hops up a stool and stands before the ingredients table. She grabs a bottle of ketchup and a bottle of water.

83 ELINOR 83
Ok, let's try mixing in some water to make it runnier...

Mrs. Gorilla looks disapproving.

84 ELINOR (CONT'D) 84
Just a tiny bit of water to start!

Elinor adds a few drops of water. She mixes it, but when she turns it over, nothing has changed. It's still ~~super~~ too goopy.

85 ELINOR (CONT'D) 85
Hmm. It's still too goopy. Let's try a little bit more...

Mrs. Gorilla doesn't look happy but Elinor adds a medium amount of water to the ketchup. She mixes it, and when she turns the bottle over, she sees that it flows at a nice and even speed into a mixing bowl on the ingredients table.

86 HAZEL 86
Yes!

87 ARI 87
Now the ketchup can drip down faster!

Ari takes the bottle and pours some over Alejandro Possum’s sandwich. With all the animals looking anxiously, Alejandro takes a bite.

88 ALEJANDRO POSSUM 88
(After a pause, and still munching)
It’s delicious!

All the animals cheer.

89 MRS. GORILLA 89
Hmmph, let me try that.

Mrs. Gorilla pours a bit of the sauce on her finger and tastes it. Her expression changes from grumpy to surprised.

90 MRS. GORILLA (CONT’D) 90
It... it tastes even better now!

The animals cheer again.

91 RANGER RABBIT 91
Phew!

Elinor repeats some lines from the ditty.

92 ELINOR 92
(Singing)
Some things are goopy,
Others runny and soupy!

If it's goopy and really slow,
Just add water to make it go!

The line starts moving faster now, and everyone is enjoying Mrs. Gorilla’s ketchup on their favorite picnic food. Elinor * is helping pour the ketchup and Mrs. Gorilla looks very happy * to see everyone’s positive reaction.

Ari takes a bite out of his sandwich with the sauce on it.

93 ARI 93
Mmm! Elinor, I'm glad you used your
powers of observation to do goop.

His stomach gurgles.

94 ARI (CONT'D) 94
Oops, I mean "good."

Everyone has a laugh. We pull out to see that everyone is * having a great time at the Town Picnic. *

END.