

ELINOR'S TOWN

EP 102 The Amazing Expandable
Clubhouse

By: Katherine Sandford

Elinor's Question: How does a snail always seem to fit even when the snail grows bigger?

Logline: Elinor and her friends run into trouble when so many kids join their club that there's no more room in the Clubhouse.

Curriculum Goals:

SEP1. Asking questions and defining problems.

SEP5. Using mathematics and computational thinking

SEP3. Planning and carrying out investigations

SEP4. Analyzing and interpreting data

SEP: Design solutions (engineering)

LS4. Understand that all animals and plants have a life cycle, can reproduce, and change and grow over time

ND3. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Structure and Function')

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.

ENGINEERING GOALS: Begin to use the five elements of the Engineering Design Process: Define a problem, Imagine and Plan, Create, Test, and Improve

- Begin to understand that engineering is a collaborative process during which ideas can be exchanged and shared with others while defining a problem and working to design, test and revise a solution

Main Characters: Elinor, Hazel, Ari, Sally, Kai

Secondary Characters: Camilla, Goat Twins (in unison), Tito

Incidental Characters: Norma, LouLou

Backgrounds: Top of the hill, Inside the Clubhouse, bottom of the hill

Props: Clubhouse journal, crayon, granola, leaf, magnifying glass, Clubhouse, building materials

OUTLINE: November 23, 2018

FIRST DRAFT: December 17th, 2018

SECOND DRAFT: January 2, 2018

1	1. EXT. CLUBHOUSE ON A HILL (WIDE) - DAY	1	
	Open on a pretty, green, summer glade. We hear indistinct children's chatter.		*
1	ELINOR, HAZEL, SALLY (laughter)	1	* *
2	ELINOR (not quite audible) Sally, I'm so glad you're joining our club!	2	* * * *
	IN ON: a big cardboard box "clubhouse" with cut-out windows, perched on a very small hill.		*
	Now we hear voices coming from inside the box more clearly, and we can see ELINOR, HAZEL and SALLY BEAVER through the window. We can also see TWO CUTE SNAILS (One bigger and one smaller) perched on the window sill.		
3	ELINOR (CONT'D) Ready?	3	
	THROUGH THE WINDOW: Elinor and Hazel start the Explorers Pledge (complete with hand gestures).		
4	ELINOR AND HAZEL An Explorer is brave!	4	
	They put their hands on their hips. Sally Beaver follows along repeating the words and the gestures		
5	SALLY An explorer is brave!	5	
6	ELINOR AND HAZEL An Explorer is kind!	6	
	Elinor and Hazel put their hands over their hearts.		
7	SALLY An Explorer is kind.	7	
	Suddenly we hear someone approaching! It's ARI, strolling towards the clubhouse as the voices continue.		
8	ELINOR AND HAZEL An Explorer is CURIOUS!	8	
	THROUGH THE WINDOW: Elinor and Hazel put their hands to their brows, looking. At the same moment, OUTSIDE Ari DOES see something that stops him in his tracks. He takes a moment to check out the snails on the windowsill.		

9	ARI	9	
	Ooooooh.		
10	SALLY	10	*
	An Explorer is CURIOUS!		
	Ari is roused from his reverie and keeps going.		
2	2. INT. CLUBHOUSE -- DAY	2	
	Elinor, Hazel and Sally say the last line together, arms wide out in joyous wonder. (ala Julie Andrews in Sound of Music but without the spinning).		
11	ELINOR, HAZEL AND SALLY	11	
	WHO KNOWS WHAT WE'LL FIND!!!		
	Ari bursts into the box.		
12	ARI	12	
	Sorry I'm late, Explorers! What did I miss?		
13	ELINOR	13	
	(proudly)		
	Hi, Explorer Ari! We've just been welcoming the newest member of our Club - Explorer Sally Beaver!		*
14	ARI	14	*
	A new member! Awesome! Welcome Explorer Sally!		
15	SALLY	15	
	Thanks for letting me be part of the club.		
16	ELINOR	16	
	Of course! Anyone can join the Explorer's Club!		
17	HAZEL	17	
	Yeah, all you have to do is love EXPLORING.		
18	ARI	18	
	Our number one rule is...		
19	ELINOR/HAZEL/ARI	19	*
	Exploring is for everyone!		

As they say this, they spread their arms (and wings) wide, causing them to crowd each other out in a funny way.

20	ELINOR/HAZEL	20	
	Hey!/Whoa!		
21	ARI	21	
	Whoops, sorry!		
22	HAZEL	22	
	I guess there's less room in the		*
	clubhouse now that we have...		*
	(counts silently)		*
	...four members!		*
23	ELINOR	23	
	OKAY, Explorers! Let's go OUTSIDE		*
	and start EXPLORING!		*
Elinor antics to exit the door, but Ari interrupts her.			
24	ARI	24	
	Wait! I have something we can		
	explore ...INSIDE the Clubhouse!		
25	ELINOR	25	
	(interested)		
	Really? What is it, Explorer Ari?		
26	ARI	26	
	Ta-DAH!		
Ari proudly gestures to the windowsill. ANGLE ON: Two nice			
snails crawling along the window ledge. NOTE: One snail			
(Lou-Lou) is bigger than the other (Norma).			
27	ELINOR	27	
	<GASP!> Snails!		
28	HAZEL/SALLY	28	
	Ooooh.../Whoa...		
Elinor, Hazel and Sally join Ari at the windowsill admiring			
the snails.			
29	ARI	29	
	Meet Norma and Lou-Lou. I named		
	them after my Aunties.		
Elinor and Hazel share a quizzical glance.			
30	ARI (CONT'D)	30	
	They look just like them.		
31	ELINOR/HAZEL	31	
	(giggle)		*
			*

The Explorers take a minute to look closely at their new friends. **SCIENCE MOMENT CU:**

*

32 ELINOR 32
Wow, look at their little antennae.

The Snails wiggle their antennae to demo. The Explorers watch for a beat or two as the snails crawl slowly along. It goes on just long enough to be funny.

33 HAZEL 33
They sure don't move very fast.

34 ARI 34
<GASP!> Wait a minute, I have a great idea! Norma and Lou-Lou can be our Explorer Club MASCOTS!

35 ELINOR, HAZEL, SALLY 35
Ooooh/ Cool!/ Huh?

This is a new word for Sally.

36 SALLY 36
Uh... what's a mac-sot?

37 ARI 37
Mascot! It's like a pet... for the whole CLUB!!

38 SALLY 38
Oh, I LOVE pets.

39 HAZEL 39
And Norma and Lou-Lou will make perfect club mascots! We'll always know where they are!

Hazel draws a picture of a snail in the club journal.

*

40 ELINOR 40
Okay! Now that we have mascots, it's time to go EXPLORING!

This time, Elinor gets a little bit further out the door before...

41 HAZEL 41
Wait, Explorer Elinor! We have one more thing to do.
(Checks the journal)
Clean the Clubhouse!

*
*
*
*

42 ELINOR 42
 Oh, right! Thank you Explorer
 Hazel. Our Clubhouse gives us
 shelter and a place to plan our
 adventures. So Explorers MUST take
 care of their Clubhouse before they
 EXPLORE! *

Elinor, Ari, Hazel and Sally tidy up, picking up some papers
 and crayons and stacking them in the corner, straightening a
 map on the wall, hanging up the magnifying glass - that kind
 of thing. Elinor does an especially speedy job to get going.

43 ELINOR (CONT'D) 43
 Okay! We cleaned up, we have
 mascots, and now...It's finally
 time to go EXPLOR-...!

Elinor runs out the door.

3. EXT. SMALL HILL -- CONTINUOUS

Elinor takes a few steps outside before she runs up against
 KAI WOMBAT.

44 ELINOR (CONT'D) 44
 ...RING...whoops. *

45 KAI 45
 Hey, Elinor! What are you guys
 doing? *

46 ARI 46
 Oh, hi, Kai! We're having a meeting
 of the Explorer's Club! Wanna join? *

47 KAI 47
 Sure!

At that moment TITO MOUSE also walks up.

48 TITO 48
 Can I join too? *

49 HAZEL 49
 Sure, Tito, come on in! The
 Explorer's Club is for everybody! *

Elinor looks back and forth between the great outdoors and
 her friends.

50	ELINOR (sighs with a smile) That's the Explorer Way!	50	* * *
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All the kids walk into the Clubhouse.

4. INT. CLUBHOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

The Clubhouse is getting pretty crowded and as everyone settles into place, Kai notices Norma and Lou-Lou.

51	KAI Oooh, nice snails.	51
----	---	----

And we take another look at the snails in CU: happily crawling along the windowsill.

52	ARI (proudly) They're our Club mascots!	52
----	---	----

53	ELINOR (good naturedly) And they're the only ones who have done any exploring today.	53
----	---	----

54	HAZEL Don't worry Elinor, we'll ALL go exploring, right after we teach Kai and Tito the Explorer's Club Pledge.	54
----	---	----

Elinor leads, with gestures:

55	ELINOR Okay, everybody!! Repeat after me! An Explorer is brave!	55
----	---	----

56	HAZEL, ARI, SALLY, KAI, TITO An Explorer is BRAVE!!	56
----	--	----

Suddenly, CAMILLA DROMEDARY pokes her head in the window.

57	CAMILLA Explorer?? Did you say Explorer? I LOVE exploring!	57	*
----	--	----	---

58	ARI Then join our club!	58
----	--	----

59	CAMILLA Don't mind if I do!	59
----	--	----

It takes some doing as she squeezes inside. They can all barely fit!

60 ELINOR 60
Hookey, let's start the club
pledge...

Suddenly the GOAT TWINS poke their noses in the door.

61 GOAT TWINS 61
(in unison)
Any room for us?

62 ELINOR 62
Uh, sure...

63 HAZEL 63
The Explorers Club is for
everybody!

They squeeze inside, now there's REALLY no room.

64 ELINOR 64
Okay, time to start the...

65 HAZEL 65
Whoops, I dropped my crayon!

She ducks down trying to retrieve it, causing the whole group to squirm and squish. ANGLE ON: her hand fishing for the crayon as we see a grouping of feet all shuffling as the crayon is accidentally kicked around - finally...

66 HAZEL (CONT'D) 66
Got it!

Hazel stands up triumphant. Suddenly <SFX: Crunch, crunch, crunch>

67 KAI 67
(mouth full)
Anybody want some crackers? *

68 ELINOR, ARI, HAZEL, SALLY 68
(ad lib)
Sure!/I'll have some/Pass them *
over!!/ Me too!

More general shifting as the crackers are shared. *

69 ELINOR 69
Okay, Explorers, let's get this
pledge started so we can all go
exploring! An explorer is...

Just that moment Ari (squished in the far corner beside the window) calls out.

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70                                ARI                                70
                                (calling out)
Wait! Has anybody seen Norma and
Lou-Lou?! They were just here a
second ago.

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71 ELINOR, HAZEL, SALLY 71
(ad lib)
Nope/ Sorry/ They're not over here.

3 5. EXT. SMALL HILL -- CONTINUOUS 3

Ari sticks his head out the window and calls. Norma and Lou-Lou are crawling behind Ari along the Clubhouse roof.

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72                                ARI                                72
Norma!!  Lou-Lou!!
        (looking around)
NORMAAAA!!  LOU-LOU!!!!!!!!!!

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The Clubhouse starts to tilt as Ari's gestures destabilize it. *

73 ARI (CONT'D) 73

Wha-oh!

It tips over and **the** entire Clubhouse comically tumbles and
rolls down the (small) hill. *

74	ELINOR, HAZEL, ARI, SALLY, KAI, TITO, 74	*
	GOAT TWINS	*
	(laughing)	
	WHOOOAAAW, WHOOOOAAAAAW, WHOOAAAAAA	*

4 6. EXT. BOTTOM OF THE HILL -- DAY 4 *

The Clubhouse tumbles to a halt at the bottom of the small hill. The kids all spill out, giggling.

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75                                TITO                                75
                                Whoa, that was cool!

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76	GOAT TWINS	76
	(together)	*
	Oh my!	

Hazel picks herself up first.

77	HAZEL	77	
	(laughing, looking at the clubhouse)		
	I think we have a Clubhouse problem.		
78	ELINOR	78	
	Yeah!		
	(Dusts herself off)		*
	The club got bigger, but the Clubhouse stayed the same size!		*
ANGLE ON: Meanwhile Ari, who landed a little ways away, picks himself up. He remembers that the snails are missing.			
79	ARI	79	
	Norma! Lou-Lou! Where are youoooo?		
BACK ON: Elinor and Hazel are looking at the tumbled Clubhouse.			
80	HAZEL	80	
	What are we going to do?		*
81	ELINOR	81	
	Hmmm...		
82	HAZEL	82	
	I wonder if we should get a bigger box?		*
83	ELINOR	83	
	That would work...		*
THOUGHT BUBBLE forms next to Elinor, in which a brand new (and bigger) box is their shiny new clubhouse. Everyone fits inside!			
84	ELINOR (CONT'D)	84	
	But what if MORE kids join the club? We'd have to get a WHOLE new Clubhouse again!		
In the thought bubble, more and more kids join the club, eventually crowding the bigger box until the thought-bubble bursts.			
BACK ON: Ari, searching for Norma and Lou-Lou.			
85	ARI	85	
	Norma! Lou-Lou! Now where did they go?		

Ari puts his hands on his hips and looks around. Suddenly, he realizes the snails are hanging out on his shoulder.

86	ARI (CONT'D)	86	
	(giggles)		*
	There you are! Silly snails.		*

BACK ON: Elinor and Hazel are still brainstorming.

87	HAZEL	87	
	What if we get <i>another</i> box? Then we can have TWO Clubhouses?		

88	ELINOR	88	
	That could work.		

THOUGHT BUBBLE showing two clubhouses near each other. All the kids fit! *

89	ELINOR (CONT'D)	89	
	But then, we wouldn't all be together.		*

In the thought bubble, we see the kids in both clubhouses having trouble communicating with the other clubhouse.

90	HAZEL	90	
	You're right, Elinor...Explorers are a team and we need to stick together.		*
			*
			*

91	ELINOR	91	
	Yeah! Hmmm...		

The **THOUGHT BUBBLE** bursts. *

BACK ON: Ari, who is within earshot of Elinor and Hazel. He uses a leaf to gently take the little snails off his shoulder and puts them on a nearby rock.

92	ARI	92	
	Phew! It's a good thing you had those shells to protect you when we rolled down the hill, Norma and Lou-Lou. It's like you have your own little clubhouses, just like we do!		*
			*
			*

This catches Elinor's attention. She hops over to Ari, with Hazel following.

93	ELINOR	93	
	Did you say Norma and Lou-Lou have their own clubhouses?		*

94 ARI 94

Kind of! See, Norma has a little
clubhouse on her back and Lou-Lou,
who's bigger, has a *bigger*
clubhouse.

The snails go into their shells, then peek out. Elinor looks closer at the snails. *

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95                                ARI (CONT'D)                                95
                                I guess when Norma grows up, she'll
                                need a bigger shell too.
                                (after a beat)
                                But, I wonder how she'll get a
                                bigger shell?

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96 ELINOR 96
Hmmm... We need more observations!

She runs past the other kids and into the clubhouse, emerging with the magnifying glass and the club journal. She looks at the snails with the magnifying glass.

97 ELINOR (CONT'D) 97
Let's take a closer look...

We track her **MAGNIFIED VIEW** as she goes back and forth between the two shells a few times (maybe pointing with a piece of grass). On close up, we see the number of loops each shell has, and that the larger shell has more lines (or rings) going outwards around the spiral.

98	ELINOR (CONT'D)	98	
	Look! Norma's shell gets bigger by		*
	winding around in a spiral shape.		*
	That is SO INTERESTING!		*
	(she demos the shape)		
	She has one, two, three rings.		

Elinor turns her attention to Lou-Lou. *

99 ELINOR (CONT'D) 99
But Lou-Lou's shell has one, two, *
three, four, five, six rings -
that's a lot more.

ANGLE ON: Hazel makes a drawing of this in the journal, counting the rings as she draws.

100 HAZEL 100
One, two, three, four, five, six!

The kids look at Hazel's drawing.

101	HAZEL (CONT'D)	101	
	The snail shell winds around, starting small and getting bigger with each ring...		
102	ELINOR	102	
	I think the snails make their shells BIGGER by ADDING to them!		*
	THOUGHT BUBBLE next to Elinor, we see Lou-Lou as a little baby snail with a small shell consisting of one loop. As she grows and gets bigger, the shell spirals around and grows, ring by ring.		* * * *
103	ELINOR (CONT'D)	103	*
	When Lou-Lou was a baby, she was probably little just like Norma. But as she got bigger Lou-Lou ADDED rings to her shell to make it bigger too.		* * * *
104	ARI	104	*
	Whoa, that is so cool...		
	THOUGHT BUBBLE bursts.		*
105	ELINOR	105	
	<GASP!> And that gives me an idea to solve our Clubhouse problem! We'll ADD on to our Clubhouse - just like Norma and Lou-Lou add on to their shells.		* * * *
	She runs off screen. Ari and Hazel look at each other and follow. We hear the beginning of a song.		
	CROSSFADE TO:		
	CLUB-BUILDING MONTAGE		
	As the kids sing, we see Hazel drawing up plans for expanding the existing clubhouse, with diagrams of the snails for inspiration.		* * *
	The kids discuss how they are going to build it. We see the other kids bringing in a colorful pile of random and whimsical building materials -- cardboard, snow saucers, sheets of colorful fabric and decorations - etc.		* * * *
	Slowly they make the clubhouse bigger by expanding it.		*

106

ELINOR, HAZEL, ARI

106

Room for everyone!
Room for everyone!
Everyone is welcome, 'cause there's
room for everyone!!

Elinor: We have a lot of friends,
Hazel: And a club that's really
fun,

ARI: We had a awesome Clubhouse

ELINOR: But we need a bigger one!

HAZEL: We'll add on rooms and
sections.

ARI: Like our snails, we'll get it
done.

(ANGLE ON: The Snails)

ELINOR: Our Club keeps growing
bigger, we need...

ALL: ROOM FOR EVERYONE!

Room for everyone!
Room for everyone!
Explorer's Club is AWESOME cause
there's room for everyone!!

END MONTAGE

*

7. EXT. CLUBHOUSE - LATER

*

Hazel checks her plans.

107

HAZEL

107

I think we've got everything except
the door on the roof!

PAN UP TO REVEAL: The REAL Clubhouse and all the Explorers
working on it. Through the door we see Kai sitting on Sally's
shoulders. ANGLE ON: Kai pops through a door in the roof.

*

*

108

KAI

108

One roof door - DONE!

Elinor looks on with satisfaction.

109

ELINOR

109

Now THAT'S a Clubhouse for
EVERYONE! There's space for all of
us to fit inside, and if we get
even MORE members...

*

*

*

110	HAZEL	110	
	We have lots of extra building stuff to add on if we need to make the Clubhouse bigger later.		* * *
	ANGLE ON: Extra stuff.		
111	ELINOR	111	
	Great!		
112	HAZEL (closing the journal) Well, now we can finally go exploring like you wanted, Elinor!	112	*
113	ELINOR That's OK. We did explore! Norma and Lou-Lou showed us how to add space to our clubhouse, so we learned something from Nature and that's what exploring is all about!	113	* * *
	Suddenly, Ari runs up in a panic.		
114	ARI Wait! I've lost Norma and Lou-Lou AGAIN!!	114	
	A beat as he looks at his smiling friends and figures it out.		
115	ARI (CONT'D) Don't tell me. They're on my shoulder, aren't they? (covering) I knew that.	115	
	Hazel uses a leaf to put them gently on a rock		*
116	ELINOR Explorers, are you ready?	116	
117	HAZEL, ARI, SALLY, KAI, TITO, CAMILLA, GOATS READY!!!	117	*
	Elinor leads her friends(with gestures) as they march OS.		
118	ELINOR, HAZEL, ARI, SALLY, KAI, TITO, CAMILLA, GOAT TWINS An Explorer is BRAVE, an Explorer is KIND!! An Explorer is CURIOUS!!! WHO KNOWS WHAT WE'LL FIND!!	118	*

IRIS OUT, THE END