

# ELINOR'S TOWN

EP 106 Hiding In Plain Sight

By: Tom Berger

Elinor's Question: How can we hide so that we're harder to find?

Logline: With their keen eyesight, the goat twins are too good at hide and go seek, so Elinor and her friends have to figure out a better way to hide.

*Curriculum Goals: (suggested by Sara)*

*Constructing Explanations (science) and Designing Solutions (engineering)*

*o Use background knowledge experiences, and data to construct reasonable explanations and theories of natural phenomena (may not be scientifically correct, rather naïve theories) (science)*

*o Look for and describe patterns and relationships in natural phenomena (science)*

*o Use and apply productive science discourse to support an explanation (e.g., think out loud, revise and rethink)*

*o Use evidence to support a theory (science) or solution to a problem (engineering)*

LS2. Understand that animals have different body parts that are used in different ways to meet their needs - Animals have different shapes, patterns and colors to help them blend in with their surroundings and "hide".

Main Characters: Elinor, Hazel, Ari, Mary, Liv

Secondary Characters: Ms. Mole

Incidental Characters: Silas, Camilla, Tito, Kai, Sally

Backgrounds - Schoolyard - various

Props - book, lotus flowers, leaves, trash bin

OUTLINE: December 7, 2018

FIRST DRAFT: January 3, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: January 15, 2019

1. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - DAY

PAN across the schoolyard as kids run to find hiding spots, under the supervision of MS. MOLE. CAMILLA hides behind the corner of the school, TITO hides behind a TREE near the playground. The goat twins, MARY and LIV, count near the classroom door, swapping every number.

|   |                              |   |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| 1 | MARY                         | 1 |
|   | One... Three... Five... etc. | * |

LIV                                                  2

...Two... Four... Six etc.                                                  \*

The <COUNTING> continues as ELINOR, HAZEL, and ARI stand near, looking around frantically. \*

3                    ELINOR                    3  
We need to find somewhere to hide!                    \*

4 HAZEL 4  
Hurry! Mary and Liv are almost done counting. \*

ARI

5

Less talking, more hiding, C'mon!

The kids run off in search of hiding spots.

## 2. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Hazel tries to tuck herself behind a TETHER BALL POLE so  
skinny that no student could hide behind it. She manages to  
conceal her trunk, but little else.

Ari sticks his head into a brightly colored BUSH, leaving his lower half clearly visible. \*

Elinor tries to hide behind a TREE, but bumps into KAI. \*

6 ELINOR 6  
Oops, sorry! I didn't see you there  
Kai! Where can *I* hide?  
(she looks around)  
Aha!

Elinor runs off towards the playground. \*

### 3. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

She jumps behind a ROCKING TOY and peeks over it. BEAT. SALLY \*  
BEAVER rises and peeks over the toy next to Elinor. \*

7 ELINOR 7  
Oh, hi Sally. I guess *this* spot is \*  
taken too! \*

Sally nods as Elinor runs off towards the SLIDE and ducks  
behind it. She's pleased with this spot, though she stands  
out obviously.

8 ELINOR (SOTTO) (CONT'D) 8  
There's no way the goat twins will  
find me here!

9 MARY / LIV (O.S.) 9  
Ready or not, here we come!

4. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Liv and Mary run up beside Hazel behind the pole. \*

[illegible]

11 HAZEL 11  
Oh well... at least my trunk was  
hidden.

She wiggles her trunk. The twins run up to Ari in the bush.

12 MARY 12  
 <GIGGLES> Um, Ari?

```

13                ARI                                13
SHH! I'm trying to hide from the-
      (he pokes his head up and
        sees the goats)
...goat twins. Aw shucks.

```

The twins run off.

### 5. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Mary and Liv run into the playground, immediately spotting Elinor. They run up on either side of her, surprising her.

14                   MARY / LIV                   14  
Found you Elinor!

15                        ELINOR (JUMPING)                        15  
AAAAH!  
    (then)  
Already? *That* was fast.

Hazel and Ari approach.

|    |                                                                                                                                                 |    |   |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 16 | HAZEL                                                                                                                                           | 16 |   |
|    | (to Twins)                                                                                                                                      |    |   |
|    | How did you find us all so fast?                                                                                                                |    | * |
| 17 | ARI                                                                                                                                             | 17 |   |
|    | Especially me! I thought my hiding spot was pretty good.                                                                                        |    | * |
| 18 | MARY                                                                                                                                            | 18 |   |
|    | Well, goats have <i>great eyesight...</i>                                                                                                       |    | * |
|    | LIV                                                                                                                                             |    | * |
| 19 | That means we see <i>really well</i> .                                                                                                          | 19 | * |
|    | Behind the goats, Tito peeks out from behind a tree.                                                                                            |    | * |
| 20 | MARY                                                                                                                                            | 20 |   |
|    | And that's why we're so good at...                                                                                                              |    | * |
| 21 | LIV                                                                                                                                             | 21 | * |
|    | Hide and Seek!                                                                                                                                  |    |   |
|    | (then, calling)                                                                                                                                 |    |   |
|    | Tito! Come out from behind that tree!                                                                                                           |    | * |
|    | Tito comes out from behind the tree.                                                                                                            |    | * |
|    | MARY                                                                                                                                            |    | * |
|    | Kai! I see you behind Ms. Mole!                                                                                                                 |    | * |
|    | ON MS. MOLE: Kai steps out from behind her, startling her.                                                                                      |    | * |
|    | Mary and Liv <LAUGH PLAYFULLY> and bound off, in search of other students.                                                                      |    | * |
| 23 | ARI                                                                                                                                             | 23 | * |
|    | The Goat Twins are way too good at Hide-and-Seek, we don't stand a chance!                                                                      |    | * |
| 24 | LIV (O.S.)                                                                                                                                      | 24 |   |
|    | Found you too, Sally!                                                                                                                           |    |   |
|    | Elinor and her friends look over to see Liv and Mary next to Sally's rocking toy. Sally rises slowly up from behind it, peeking over as before. |    | * |
|    |                                                                                                                                                 |    | * |
| 25 | ELINOR                                                                                                                                          | 25 |   |
|    | We need to figure out how to make ourselves harder to find!                                                                                     |    | * |
|    |                                                                                                                                                 |    | * |

26                      HAZEL                      26     \*

We'd better figure it out quickly.  
The twins have found everyone but-

27 MARY / LIV (O.S.) 27  
Found you, Camilla! \*

Camilla reveals herself from behind the school, arms on hips \*  
in disbelief at being found. \*

28                   ARI                   28     \*

Now they've found everyone! That  
must be a new Hide-and-Seek record!

The goats bound back to Elinor and her friends.

29                    ELINOR (TO TWINS)                    29  
You two are *great* at this game! Can                    \*  
we play again?                    \*

|    |                           |    |   |
|----|---------------------------|----|---|
| 35 | MARY                      | 35 |   |
|    | Sure! We're happy to keep |    | * |
|    | counting...               |    | * |

36                   LIV                   36

If you want to keep hiding! \*

The twins cover their heads and count as the kids run off.

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| MARY                 | LIV (CONT'D)        |
| One... Three... etc. | ...Two ...Four etc. |

6. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - SHALLOW STREAM - CONTINUOUS \*

At the SHALLOW STREAM, Elinor jumps behind a LARGE GREY ROCK, \*  
Ari hides in some WHITE LOTUS BLOSSOMS, and Hazel behind a \*  
GREEN AND BROWN TREE. All three of them stick out obviously.

Elinor peeks from behind her rock and sees TWO LEAVES AND A  
KATYDID (which looks like the leaves) on top. The katydid  
shifts a bit and catches Elinor's attention.

|      |        |   |
|------|--------|---|
|      | ELINOR | * |
| Huh? |        | * |

As Hazel peeks out from behind her tree, a BROWN PILE OF TWIGS beside her seems to shift, catching her eye.

HAZEL \*

What was that? \*

On the lotus blossoms, a <CHIRPING> can be heard. Ari pokes  
his head up and looks around, searching for the sound.

ARI \*  
Who's there? \*

Elinor leans in to take a closer look at the katydid when: \*

37 MARY / LIV (O.S.) 37  
Ready or not here we come!

Elinor ducks behind her rock as Mary and Liv bound into \*  
frame. They spot the friends quickly. \*

38 LIV 38  
Elinor, you're behind the grey  
rock.

39 MARY 39  
Ari, we see you in those flowers.

40 LIV 40  
Hazel, you're hiding behind that  
tree!

The friends come out of their hiding spots, astounded.

41 ELINOR 41  
Again? But how?

42 LIV 42  
It was easy to spot your white ears  
behind that grey rock, Elinor.

Elinor looks up at her ears and drops them to her side.

43 MARY 43  
You too, Hazel. You stand out  
behind that brown tree...

44 LIV 44  
Same for you in those white  
flowers, Ari. \*

ARI \*  
How do you keep finding me? My \*  
hiding spots are *amazing*! \*  
(then, unsure) \*  
Aren't they? \*

The goats <GIGGLE> and bound off. Hazel <SIGHS> and rests her \*  
head in her hand on the rock, thinking. \*

45 HAZEL 45 \*  
I thought our hiding spots were  
much better this time, but the  
twins still found us right away.  
(MORE)

HAZEL (CONT'D)

(then)

There must be *something* we can do  
to hide *better*.

As Hazel speaks, the katydid takes two quick hops along the rock, getting Elinor's attention. Elinor is shocked.

\*  
\*

46                                ELINOR                                46  
Did you two see that?

47                                HAZEL                                47  
Did that leaf just... hop?

48                                ARI                                48  
I've never seen a leaf hop before.

The katydid moves again, surprising the kids!

\*

49                                ELINOR                                49  
That is so interesting! We need  
more observations!

\*  
\*

The friends lean in to examine. SCIENCE MOMENT CU: The katydid looks very similar to the other two leaves. It takes a couple more hops along the rock.

50                                ELINOR (CONT'D)                                50  
How interesting! It's not a leaf at  
all. It's an *insect*!

The katydid hops again, landing beside another LEAF.

\*

ARI                                \*  
Look! The insect's body is the same                                \*  
shape and color as the leaf!                                \*

The kids look back and forth from katydid to leaf in awe.

\*

51                                HAZEL                                51  
Unbe-leaf-able! But when you look  
even closer, you can see it has  
antennae and legs.

\*  
\*

The katydid takes a few steps and wiggles its antennae.

\*

ARI / ELINOR / HAZEL                                \*  
Cool! / Woah! / Awesome!                                \*

53                                ELINOR                                53  
(to katydid)  
We almost didn't see you there,  
little friend!

54 HAZEL 54 \*  
I've read about this in my nature  
book. Some creatures blend in by  
looking like the things around  
them. It's called "camouflage." \*

55 ARI 55 \*  
Hmmm... I wonder if anything else  
around here is camouflaged? \*

HAZEL (REALIZING) \*  
While I was hiding, I think I saw  
something move in a pile of sticks,  
but I'm not sure. \*

57 ELINOR 57 \*  
Only one way to find out! C'mon! \*

The kids run over to the pile of sticks. As they look at it, \*  
the pile seems to shift again. \*

59 HAZEL 59  
Hmm. First hopping leaves and now  
moving twigs? \*

Hazel looks even closer and... nothing happens. She starts to \*  
look away when something in the pile shifts again. \*

60 HAZEL (CONT'D) 60  
Ok, that time I *know* I saw  
something move.

She extends her trunk and sniffs the pile when a BROWN TOAD \*  
hops out of it and startles Hazel and her friends! \*

61 HAZEL (CONT'D) 61  
<TRUMPET>!

The toad lands next to the twigs. \*

62 ELINOR 62 \*  
What was that? \*

63 ARI 63 \*  
Something brown and... jumpy! \*

The kids search near the pile. Hazel spots the toad. \*

65 HAZEL 65  
That tricky toad was hidden in that  
pile of sticks and twigs.

The kids lean in for a closer look at the toad sitting next  
to the pile of twigs. SCIENCE MOMENT CU: \*

67                    ELINOR                    67

Cool! That pattern on his back is  
the same black and brown color as  
the sticks!

\*  
\*  
\*

68 HAZEL 68  
Even when I was looking right at  
him, I couldn't see him!

The toad <RIBBITS> proudly and hops away.

69 ELINOR 69  
How interesting! \*

Above them, they hear a <CHIRPING>. They look up at the canopy, but can't see anything. \*

70                   ARI                   70

I *heard* that same bird earlier, but \*

I couldn't *see* it. \*

71                    ELINOR                    71  
Think you can fly up and take a  
closer look?

72                   ARI (EXCITED)                   72  
Can I?! Just watch!

Ari flies up onto a TREE BOUGH with several branches and twigs growing off of it. A SMALL BROWN SPARROW sits, barely visible, on a nearby twig. The bird <CHIRPS> and flutters, identifying itself to the audience (but not Ari).

73                   ARI (CONT'D)                   73  
Where is that sound coming from?

As Ari looks LEFT, UP, then RIGHT, the bird flies from one twig to another, always one step ahead of him. (ie, when Ari looks LEFT, the bird is UP. When the bird flies RIGHT, he looks UP etc.). The bird <CHIRPS> at each branch.

74                   ARI (CONT'D)                   74  
Is it the tree that's chirping?

On the ground, Hazel and Elinor share a <GIGGLE>.

Ari is looking directly at the bird, but he doesn't notice.  
The bird <CHIRPS> and flutters and he finally sees it.

75                   ARI (CONT'D)                   75  
Oh, there you are! Have you been  
hiding here this whole time?

The bird <CHIRPS> happily and flies onto his head. Ari floats down to the ground to rejoin his friends.

76                                ELINOR (TO BIRD)                                76  
Look at your beautiful brown and  
grey feathers. They're the same  
colors as the tree.

77 HAZEL 77  
It's a perfect match. We couldn't  
see him *at all* from down here.

78                   ARI (POINTING UP)                   78  
I couldn't even see him from up  
there!

The bird, still on his head, <CHIRPS> in agreement. \*

|    |                                   |    |   |
|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| 81 | ELINOR                            | 81 |   |
|    | Wow, it's so cool how good nature |    | * |
|    | is at hiding.                     |    | * |

A THOUGHT BUBBLE shows the katydid's similarity to the leaf. \*

ELINOR (CONT'D) \*  
The katydid was hidden because it \*  
had the same *shape* and *color* as the  
leaves it was next to.

A THOUGHT BUBBLE shows the frog's similarity to the twigs. \*

82                                 HAZEL                                 82

And I didn't see that tricky toad  
because his color and pattern  
matched the twigs he was sitting on.

A THOUGHT BUBBLE shows the bird's similarity to the treetop. \*

83                   ARI                   83

(pointing at bird on head)

And my little buddy up here looks  
just like...

(pointing up at canopy)

...the tree up there. I didn't see  
him at all!

84 ELINOR 84  
Hey! This gives me an idea of how \*  
to hide better from the goat twins! \*

Ari and Hazel listen eagerly. \*

ELINOR (CONT'D)

If we hide *near* things that we look  
like, we can camouflage too!

ARI / HAZEL

Awesome! / Great idea!

Music starts as Elinor and her friends search for hiding  
spots where they might be able to camouflage themselves.

91

ELINOR / ARI / HAZEL

91

Hide and Seek, Hide and Seek  
Count to ten and don't you peek!  
Nature shows me how to hide,  
Use my color, shape or size.

Elinor compares herself unsuccessfully to a bush and keeps  
searching for a hiding spot.

ELINOR

Because my ears are long and white,  
I should use them to hide from  
sight!

Ari looks around for somewhere he could hide.

ARI

My fur is brown, my shirt is green  
Where can I hide myself unseen?

Hazel compares herself unsuccessfully to a rocking toy and  
keeps looking.

HAZEL

My skin is grey, where can I hide,  
And look like the thing I'm beside?

The kids continue to search for hiding spots.

ELINOR / ARI / HAZEL

Hide and Hide, Hide and Seek  
Count to ten and don't you peek!  
A hiding spot that looks like me,  
Will make me really hard to see!

Collectively, they see some hiding spots off-screen, unseen  
to the audience. They share a look; they know what to do!

WIPE TO:

**7. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - LATER**

Same as the opening scene, PAN across the schoolyard as kids run off to find hiding spots. The goat twins count at the classroom door as Elinor, Hazel, and Ari stand near.

ELINOR

Everyone knows where to hide,  
right?

HAZEL

Ya! This time there's no way the  
twins will find us.

ARI

Do I have to say this every time?  
Less talking, more hiding... C'mon!

The friends run off as the goats finish counting.

MARY

LIV

7... 9...

...8 ...10!

97

MARY / LIV

97

Ready or not, here we come!

The goats run off, searching for their friends.

**8. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - CONTINUOUS**

The twins run past the SHALLOW STREAM (FROM SC6), not noticing Elinor, Hazel and Ari. Elinor is hiding in the lotus blossoms, her ears blending in with the pedals. Ari hides in the brown and orange tree, and Hazel hides behind the large grey rock. The friends should be well camouflaged and apparent to the audience only when they move or make themselves scene.

(Perhaps their hiding spots are slowly revealed through the following scenes. The first time the goats run through, Ari pops out. The second time, Hazel peeks out quickly, the last time, Elinor peeks out.)

They find Sally standing on Camilla's back, behind a TREE.

They run in the other direction past the stream again.

The twins find Tito behind A HOLLOW LOG, and Kai in it. The twins look around, searching. They look at each other confused, shrug, and run off.

**9. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - SHALLOW STREAM - CONTINUOUS**

\*

The twins run in and start searching, coming close to Elinor and friends, but not finding them.

98 MARY 98

I can't see Elinor, Ari, or Hazel  
anywhere... where are they?

99 LIV 99

I don't know! We've usually found  
them by now. They're hiding *much*  
*better* this time.

100 MARY 100

Do you think we should split up to  
look?

\*

They stare at one another for a beat.

\*

101 MARY / LIV 101

No way! / We're never splitting up!

The bound off together hand-in-hand, <GIGGLING>.

102 ELINOR (STAGE WHISPER) 102

It's working! They can't see us.

103 ARI (STAGE WHISPER) 103

Shhh! Flowers can't talk!

104 HAZEL (STAGE WHISPER) 104

Neither can trees!

Ari catches himself and covers his mouth his hands. Elinor stifles a <GIGGLE>. The goats bound back in, near Ari's tree.

\*

105 MARY 105

We've looked everywhere!

106 LIV 106

And they're nowhere!

\*

109 MARY 109

If we can't find them...

\*

110 LIV 110

Then *no-one* can.

They look at each other for a beat.

111 MARY 111

COME OUT, COME OUT, WHERE EVER YOU  
ARE!

\*

\*

\*

LIV  
OLLY-OLLY-OXEN-FREE!

\*

Elinor and her friends jump out of their hiding spots,  
startling the goats! A few classmates run in to watch.

112 MARY / LIV (SHOCKED) 112  
BAAAAAAA!!!

113 ELINOR 113  
Here we are! Right in front of you!

114 MARY 114  
But how? We looked here!

115 LIV 115  
We looked there!

116 MARY / LIV 116  
We looked *everywhere*!

117 ELINOR 117  
<LAUGHS> We used camouflage to hide  
in plain sight!

She hops into the lotus blossoms and blends in with her ears. \*

118 HAZEL 118  
By finding hiding spots that looked  
like us. \*

Hazel tucks herself back behind the rock. \*

119 ARI 119  
So you couldn't see us!

He leans in to share a secret. \*

ARI (STAGE WHISPER) (CONT'D) \*  
(good-natured) \*  
Even when we were right under you \*  
noses. \*

He hops into the tree right next to them and disappears. The \*  
twins are flabbergasted! \*

120 MARY 120  
That...

121 LIV 121  
Is...

122 MARY / LIV 122  
AMAZING!!!

Ari, Hazel, and Elinor hop proudly from their hiding spots.

\*

123 MARY 123  
Can we try? We want to camouflage!

124 LIV 124  
Ya, it's our turn to hide now!

\*

125 ELINOR 125  
<GIGGLES> Sure thing!

Elinor covers her head and counts.

126 ELINOR (CONT'D) 126  
1... 2... 3... etc.

Everyone scatters to hide, leaving the goat twins behind.  
They look around for a hiding spot.

127 MARY (STAGE WHISPER, TO LIV) 127  
Psst... what around here looks the  
most like twin goats?

Liv shrugs and they bound out, looking for a goat-shaped  
hiding space. Unseen behind them are TWO BUSHES THAT MATCH  
THEIR SILHOUETTE AND COLORS. IRIS OUT on Elinor counting.

\*

\*

**THE END.**