

# 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

1. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - DAY

PAN across the schoolyard as kids run to find hiding spots, under the supervision of MS. MOLE. SILAS hides himself behind a LOG, CAMILLA 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. |   |

2 LIV 2  
 ...Two...Four...Six etc.

The <COUNTING> continues as ELINOR, HAZEL, and ARI stand near, looking frantically for somewhere to hide.

3 ELINOR 3  
We need to find hiding spots!

4 HAZEL 4  
And fast! Mary and Liv are almost  
done counting.

ARI

Less talking, more hiding, C'mon!

The kids run off in search of hiding spots.

**2. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS**

Hazel tries to tuck herself behind a TREE SO NARROW that no student could hide behind it. She manages to conceal her trunk, but little else.

Ari sticks his head into a BUSH, leaving his lower half clearly visible.

Elinor tries to hide behind a TREE, but is shooed out by KAI.

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

She jumps behind a ROCK. BEAT. SALLY BEAVER stands up from behind the rock with Elinor on her head.

7 ELINOR (CONT'D) 7  
Oh, hi Sally. I guess this spot is  
taken too?

Sally nods as Elinor hops down and runs off.

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

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

8 ELINOR (SOTTO) 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 tree.

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10          LIV
Nice try Hazel, Found you!
10

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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?

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

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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)  
Ya, how did you find us all so  
fast?

17                   ARI                   17  
Especially me! I though *my* hiding  
spot was pretty good.

MARY

Well, some animals just have *great eyesight*, that means they can see really well.

(then, gloating a bit)

Like us goats.

19                               LIV                               19  
And other animals don't see as  
well.  
    (indicating to Ms. Mole)  
Like Ms. Mole.

ON MS MOLE: sitting on a rock reading an UPSIDE DOWN BOOK. She squints at the pages, adjusts her glasses, and flips the book back right side up. Kai pops up briefly from behind her during this action.

ON KIDS: Behind the goats, Tito peeks out from behind a tree.

|    |                                                                                                         |    |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 20 | MARY                                                                                                    | 20 |
|    | And that's why we goats are so good<br>at ...<br>(then, calling)<br>Kai! You're hiding behind Ms. Mole! |    |

ON MS. MOLE: Kai steps out from behind her, startling her.

|    |                                 |    |
|----|---------------------------------|----|
| 21 | LIV                             | 21 |
|    | Hide and Seek!                  |    |
|    | (then, calling)                 |    |
|    | Tito! Come out from behind that |    |
|    | tree!                           |    |

Tito comes out from behind the tree, Mary and Liv <LAUGH PLAYFULLY> and bound off, in search of other students.

22 MARY (O.S.) 22  
There you are Camilla!

23                               ARI                               23  
The Goat Twins are way too good at  
Hide-and-Seek, no one stands 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 rock. Camilla stands near, arms on hips in disbelief.

25                               ELINOR                               25  
We're going to need to figure out a  
way to hide that makes us much  
harder to find if we're going to  
beat Mary and Liv.

26                               ARI                               26  
We'd better figure it out quickly.  
The twins have found everyone but-

27                               MARY / LIV (O.S.)                               27  
Silas!

Mary and Liv stand on either side of Silas' log. Silas stands  
up between them, arms crossed.

28                               ELINOR                               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) (CONT'D)                               29  
That was really impressive. Is  
there anything you two *can't* see?

Mary and Liv notice something in the distance.

30                               MARY (CALLING)                               30  
Don't eat that, Ms. Mole!

The kids all look over to see Ms. Mole sitting at the far  
side of the yard, about to eat a STICK.

31                               LIV (O.S.)(CALLING)                               31  
That's a stick, not a carrot!

ON MS. MOLE: She looks at the stick in her hand, then notices  
a CARROT next to her. She picks it up and compares it to the  
stick. She takes a bite of the carrot.

32                               MS. MOLE (CALLING)                               32  
                              Thanks Mary, thanks Liv! That would  
                              have been *too much* crunch.

ON KIDS: Ari squints to see Ms. Mole in the distance.

33                               ARI                                               33  
                              Wow, they really *can* see  
                              everything!

34                               ELINOR (TO GOATS)                               34  
                              We'll stump you yet, I'm sure of  
                              it. Want to play again?

The goats shrug.

35                               MARY                                           35  
                              Sure! We don't mind winning.

36                               LIV                                           36  
                              If you don't mind losing.

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 - RIVER BEND - CONTINUOUS

At the river bend, Elinor jumps behind a LARGE GREY ROCK, Ari tries to hide in some WHITE LOTUS BLOSSOMS, and Hazel behind a GREEN AND BROWN TREE. All three of them stick out obviously.

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

Mary and Liv bound into frame, spotting 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 and Hazel compare themselves to their hiding spots. The goats bound off. Elinor <SIGHS> and rests her head in her hand on the rock, thinking. Her friends join her.

45                                   ELINOR                                   45  
I thought our hiding spots were  
much better this time, but the  
twins still found us right away.  
(then)  
There must be *something* we can do  
to hide *better*.

Elinor looks idly at THREE LEAVES resting on top of her rock. Suddenly, one of the "leaves" (A KATYDID) takes two quick hops along the rock. Elinor is shocked.

46                                   ELINOR (CONT'D)                                   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.

49                                   ELINOR                                   49  
Let's take a closer look.

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*!

51                                   HAZEL                                   51  
You're right! When you look  
closely, you can see it has  
antennae and legs.

The katydid hops again, landing beside another LEAF.

52                               ARI                               52  
      Woah! It looks almost exactly like  
      an *actual* leaf.

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

Ms. Mole approaches and looks over their shoulders. She  
adjusts her glasses and leans in (a lot) for a closer look.

54                               MS. MOLE                               54  
      Oh, you've spotted a katydid! It's  
      a kind of grasshopper that's hard  
      to see because it looks like those  
      leaves. That's called *camouflage*.

55                               ELINOR                               55  
      That's so interesting!  
      (thinking)  
      So "camouflage" means to hide by  
      looking like the things that are  
      around you?

Ms. Mole looks around, as if about reveal a big secret. She  
gestures for the kids to come closer.

56                               MS. MOLE                               56  
      Yes, exactly! And...  
      (then, stage whisper)  
      The katydid isn't the *only* thing  
      around here that's camouflaged.

57                               ELINOR                               57  
      Really?! We need more observations!

As Ms. Mole leaves, Ari looks off to see Mary and Liv find  
Tito and Silas hiding in the playground.

58                               ARI                               58  
      We'd better observe fast, the goats  
      have already found Silas and Tito!

As they explore, Hazel is drawn to a BROWN PILE OF FALLEN  
TWIGS. As she examines it, something in the pile shifts.

59                               HAZEL                               59  
      Hmm. First hopping leaves and now  
      moving twigs? That can't be right.

She 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 her!

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

The toad lands next to the twigs. Her friends run over.

62 ELINOR 62  
Hazel! Did you find something?

63                   HAZEL                   63  
Yeah. Something brown and... jumpy!

The kids search near the pile. Ari spots the toad.

64                   ARI                   64

Is this what you saw? This guy  
looks pretty brown and jumpy to me.

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 mulch. SCIENCE MOMENT CU:

66                   ARI                   66  
His color matches the brown and  
black of the twig pile.

67 ELINOR 67  
Cool! And that pattern on his back  
makes him look like a stick.

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! I wonder if  
anything else around here is hiding  
from us.

The kids resume searching. Above them, they hear a <CHIRPING>. They look up at the canopy, but can't see anything.

70                   ARI                   70  
I can *hear* a bird up there, but I  
can't *see* one.

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.

79                               MARY / LIV (O.S.)                               79  
Gotcha!

The friends look and see the goat twins find Kai and  
Camilla's HIDING SPOTS near the school.

80                               HAZEL                                               80  
Oh no! They've almost found  
everyone. And we *still* don't know  
how to hide better.

81                               ELINOR                                           81  
Let's think about what we've seen.  
(thinking)  
Okay, the katydid was hidden  
because it had the same *shape* and  
*color* as the leaves it was next to.

82                               HAZEL                                           82  
And I didn't see that tricky toad  
because his color and pattern  
matched the twigs he was sitting on.

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  
Hmmm... that's it! If we hide *near*  
things that we look like, we can  
camouflage too! Just like them!

85                               ARI                                               85  
Mary and Liv will never find us!

86                               MARY / LIV (O.S.)                               86  
We found you!

The kids look to see the twins find Sally behind a TRASH BIN.

87 ELINOR 87  
The twins have found everyone!  
Let's try again, and this time we  
can stay hidden *for sure*. Just  
remember, we need to *camouflage*!

The kids share a <WINK> as Mary and Liv bound into shot.

88                   MARY                   88  
Are you ready to give up?

89                               ARI (DRAMATICALLY)                               89  
NEVER!!

|    |                            |    |
|----|----------------------------|----|
| 90 | LIV                        | 90 |
|    | OK, get ready to be found! |    |

WIPE TO:

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

MUSIC STARTS as the goat twins count at the school. Elinor, Ari, and Hazel run across the school yard as other schoolmates find hiding spots along the way.

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.  
A hiding spot that looks like me,  
Will make me really hard to see!

8. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - RIVER BEND - CONTINUOUS

Hazel jumps behind the large grey rock (all hiding spots are from SC5), spreading her grey ears over it.

92                      HAZEL                      92

'Cause my skin is rough and grey,  
By this rock is where I'll stay.

Ari hides in the green and brown tree.

93                   ARI                   93

My shirt is green, my fur is brown,  
Good thing there are trees around!

Elinor crouches beside the white lotus blossoms, sticking out her ears to blend in with the PETALS of the flower.

94                         ELINOR                         94

'Cause my ears are straight and  
white,  
These flowers can hide me from  
sight!

Elinor, Hazel and Ari pop out from their hiding spots to finish the song.

95                    ELINOR / ARI / HAZEL                    95  
Hide and Seek, 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!

Then they all pop into their hiding places.

96 ELINOR / ARI / HAZEL (CONT'D) 96  
(giggle)

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

7... 9... MARY ...8 ...10! LIV

97 MARY / LIV 97  
Ready or not, here we come!

The twins run into the playground and find Silas behind a POST.

They run past the river bend, not noticing Elinor, Hazel and Ari, who watch them sneakily as they run past.

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

They run in the other direction past the river bend again.

The twins find Tito behind the trash bin, and Kai *in* it. The twins look around, searching. They look at each other confused, shrug, and run off. MUSIC STOPS.

10. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - RIVER BEND - 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 spilt up to  
look?

The start at other 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.

105 MARY 105  
We've looked everywhere!

106 LIV 106  
And they're nowhere!

107 MS. MOLE (O.S.) 107  
Need help searching?

Ms. Mole looks near the school. She sees her reflection in  
the WINDOW OF THE SCHOOL. She thinks it's Elinor for a second  
before adjusting her glasses and getting a closer look.

108 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 108  
I found Elinor! Oh wait...  
(then)  
Oops! That's me!

Back at the river bend, the twins are giving up.

109 MARY 109  
If we can't see them...

110 LIV 110  
Then *no-one* can.

They look at each other for a beat.

111 MARY / LIV 111  
WE GIVE UP! / 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) (CONT'D) 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!

118 HAZEL 118  
By using our colors and shapes, we  
blended in with our surroundings.

119 ARI 119  
So you couldn't see us!  
(leaning in)  
Even when we were... Right. Under.  
Your. Noses.

120 MARY 120  
That...

121 LIV 121  
Is...

122 MARY / LIV 122  
AMAZING!!!

Ari, Hazel, and Elinor stand proud.

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

124 LIV 124  
Ya, to hide from you 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. IRIS OUT on Elinor counting.

**THE END.**