

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 102A 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, LIZZIE

Secondary Characters: Ms. Mole

Incidental Characters: Camilla, Tito, Koa, Sally

Backgrounds - Schoolyard - various

Props - swing set, sand-box, lotus flowers, leaves, katydid, pile of twigs, brown toad, bird

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FIRST DRAFT: January 3, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: January 15, 2019

POLISH: January 24, 2019

RECORD DRAFT: January 30th, 2019

1. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - DAY

PAN across the schoolyard on a clear day as little 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 LIZZIE, count near the classroom door, swapping every number.

1 MARY 1
One... Three... Five... etc.

LIZZIE

2

...Two... Four... Six etc.

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

3 ELINOR 3
We need to find somewhere to hide!

4 OLIVE 4
Hurry! Mary and Lizzie are almost
done counting.

5 ARI 5
Less talking, more hiding, C'mon!

The kids run off in search of hiding spots.

2. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

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 KOA.

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

Elinor runs off towards the playground.

3. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Olive tries to tuck herself behind THE LEG OF THE SWING SET. It's so skinny that no student could hide behind it. She manages to conceal her trunk, but little else.

Elinor dives behind the SANDBOX and peeks over it. BEAT.
SALLY BEAVER rises beneath Elinor and we see Elinor is on top
of her.

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 Mary and Lizzie will
find me here!

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

4. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

The twins run up to Ari in the bush.

10 MARY 10
 <GIGGLES> Um, Ari?

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11                ARI                                11
SHH! I'm trying to hide from-
    (he pokes his head up and
      sees the goats)
...Mary and Lizzie. Awwwww.

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12 MARY/LIZZIE 12
Found you!

The twins run off.

5. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Mary and LIZZIE run into the playground, and spot Olive behind the leg of the swing set.

13 LIZZIE 13
Nice try Olive, we found you!

14 OLIVE 14
Oh well... at least my trunk was
hidden.

She wiggles her trunk. The twins run up on either side of Elinor, surprising her.

15 MARY / LIZZIE 15
Found you Elinor!

16 ELINOR (JUMPING) 16
AAAAH!
(then)
Already? *That* was fast.

Olive and Ari approach.

17 OLIVE 17
(to Twins)
How did you find us all so quickly?

18 ARI 18
Especially me! I thought my hiding
spot was pretty good.

19 MARY 19
Well, we goats have *really good*
eyesight...

20 LIZZIE 20
19 That means we see *really well*. 19

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

21 MARY 21
And that's why we're so good at...

22 LIZZIE 22
Hide and Seek!
(then, calling)
Tito! Come out from behind that
tree!

Tito comes out from behind the tree.

23 MARY 23
Koa! I see you behind Ms. Mole!

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

Mary and Lizzie <LAUGH PLAYFULLY> and bound off, in search of
other students.

24 ARI 24
Mary and Lizzie are way too good at
Hide-and-Seek, we don't stand a
chance!

25 LIZZIE (O.S.) 25
Found you too, Sally!

Elinor and her friends look over to see Lizzie and Mary next to the sandbox. Sally rises slowly up from behind it, peeking over as before.

26 ELINOR 26
We need to figure out how to make
ourselves harder to find!

27 OLIVE 27
We'd better figure it out quickly.
Mary and Lizzie have found everyone
but-

28 MARY / LIZZIE (O.S.) 28
Found you, Camilla!

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

29 ARI 29

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

The goats bound back to Elinor and her friends.

30 ELINOR (TO TWINS) 30
You two are *so good* at this game!

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31          ARI                               31
      Let's play again!

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32 MARY 32
Sure! We're happy to keep
counting...

33 LIZZIE 33
If you want to keep hiding!

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

[illegible]

6. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - SHALLOW STREAM - CONTINUOUS

Everyone scatters to hide. At the SHALLOW STREAM, Elinor jumps behind a LARGE GREY ROCK, Ari hides in some WHITE LOTUS BLOSSOMS, and Olive hides next to a GREEN AND BROWN TREE. All three of them stick out obviously.

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

34 ELINOR 34
Huh?

Elinor leans in to take a closer look. After a beat, the katydid moves again. Elinor is surprised.

35 ELINOR (CONT'D) 35
 <GASP!>

She's about to look even closer at the katydid when:

36 MARY / LIZZIE (O.S.) 36
 Ready or not here we come!

Elinor remembers she's still playing and ducks behind her rock, but her ears obviously stick out. Mary and Lizzie bound into frame. They spot the friends quickly.

37 LIZZIE 37
Elinor, you're behind the grey rock.

38 ELINOR 38
Aww...

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

40 ARI 40
What? But how?

41 LIZZIE 41
Olive, you're hiding next to that tree!

42 OLIVE 42
Impossible!

The friends come out of their hiding spots, astounded.

43 ELINOR 43
How did you find us?

44 LIZZIE 44
It was easy to see your white ears behind that grey rock, Elinor.

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

45 MARY 45
You too, Olive. We can see you really well next to that brown tree...

46 ARI 46

How do you keep finding me? My
hiding spots are *amazing!*

(then, unsure)

Aren't they?

47 LIZZIE 47
And it was easy to see you in those
white flowers, Ari.

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

48 OLIVE 48

I thought our hiding spots were
much better this time, but Mary and
Lizzie still found us right away.

(then)

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

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

49 ELINOR 49
Whoa! Did you see that?

What? OLIVE

51 ARI 51
I think that leaf just hopped!

The katydid moves again, surprising the kids!

52 ELINOR 52
Those are the leaves I saw move
before!

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.

53 ELINOR (CONT'D) 53
Wait... That's amazing! It's not a
leaf at all! When you look closer,
you can see it has little antennae
and legs!

The katydid hops again, landing beside another LEAF.

54	OLIVE	54
	It's an insect! Look, its body is the same shape and color as the leaf!	

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

55	ARI	
	That's unbe-leaf-able!	55

The katydid takes a few steps and wiggles its antennae.

56 ARI / ELINOR / OLIVE 56
Cool! / Woah! / Awesome!

57 ELINOR 57
 (to katydid)
We almost didn't see you there,
little friend!

58 OLIVE 58

I've read about this in my nature book. Some animals hide by looking like the things around them. It's called "camouflage."

59 ARI 59

 Hmmm... I wonder if anything else
 around here is camouflaged?

60 ELINOR 60
There's only one way to find out!
We need more observations!

The kids look around their immediate area. Olive starts looking near a pile of twigs and bits of leaves next to a tree. As she looks at it, the pile seems to shift.

61 OLIVE 61
 Hmm. First hopping leaves and now
 moving twigs?

Suddenly, something in the pile shifts again.

62 OLIVE (CONT'D) 62
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 Olive and her friends!

63 OLIVE (CONT'D) 63
 <TRUMPET>!

The toad lands next to the twigs.

64 ELINOR 64
 What is that?

65 ARI 65
 Something brown and... jumpy!

Olive spots the toad.

66 OLIVE 66
 Look, it's a toad! It was hidden in
 that pile of sticks.

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

67 ELINOR 67
 Cool! Those spots on his back look
 just like the sticks on the ground!
 It's the same pattern!

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

The toad <RIBBITS> proudly and hops away.

69 ARI 69
 That is so cool!

70 ELINOR 70
 Nature is so good at hiding!

The kids run back to the katydid and the leaves.

71 ELINOR (CONT'D) 71
 The katydid was hidden because it
 had the same *shape* and *color* as the
 leaves it was next to.

They run over to the toad and the twigs and compare them.

72 OLIVE 72
 And I didn't see that tricky toad
 because the spots and colors on his
 skin look just like twigs he was
 sitting on.

73 ELINOR 73
 That is SO INTERESTING!

Mary and Lizzie run in.

74 MARY 74
We've found everyone!

75 LIZZIE 75
Want to play another round?

76 ELINOR 76
Yup! We'll be right there!

The twins run off.

77 ELINOR (CONT'D) 77
Ari! Olive! I have an idea of how
we can hide better from Mary and
Lizzie!

Ari and Olive listen eagerly.

78 ELINOR (CONT'D) 78
If we hide *near* things that we look
like, we can camouflage too!

79 ARI / OLIVE 79
Awesome! / That's a great idea!

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

80 ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE 80
Hide and Seek, Hide and Seek
Let's play hide and seek *
Count to ten and don't you take a *
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.

81 ELINOR 81
My two ears are long and white,
How can I hide them both from *
sight?

Ari looks around for somewhere he could hide.

82 ARI 82
My fur is brown, my shirt is green
Where can I hide and not be seen?

Olive compares herself unsuccessfully to the swingset and
keeps looking.

83 OLIVE 83
*My skin is grey, where can I hide,
What makes my color hard to find?*

The kids continue to search for hiding spots.

84 ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE 84
*A hiding spot that looks like me,
Will make me really hard to see!
Hide and Seek, Hide and Seek
Let's play hide and seek *
Count to ten and don't you take a *
peek!*

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

85 ELINOR 85
Those spots are perfect!

86 OLIVE 86
Yeah! There's no way Mary and
Lizzie will find us there.

87 ARI 87
Do I have to say this every time?
Less talking, more hiding... c'mon!

WIPE TO:

7. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - LATER

Same as the opening scene, PAN across the schoolyard as the kids, including Olive, Ari, and Elinor run off to hide.

MARY LIZZIE
1...3...5...7... 9... 2...4...6...8...10!
88 MARY / LIZZIE 88
Ready or not, here we come!

The goats run off, searching for their friends.

8. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - CONTINUOUS

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

89 MARY / LIZZIE 89
Found you!

Next, the twins find Tito behind A HOLLOW LOG, and Koa in it.

90 MARY / LIZZIE (CONT'D) 90
There you are!

The twins look around, searching, and run off.

9. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - SHALLOW STREAM - CONTINUOUS

The twins walk near where Elinor is hiding. Elinor is hiding in the lotus blossoms, her ears blending in with the petals. Neither the twins (nor the audience) can see her. Once the twins walk past, Elinor wiggles her ears and peeks out, clueing the audience where she is.

Then, the twins look close to where Olive is hiding. Olive hides behind the large grey rock. Again, neither the twins nor the audience can see her. As the twins move on, Olive peeks out and stifles a <GIGGLE>. Then the twins search around Ari's tree, but don't see him. They leave and Ari pokes out.

91 MARY 91
I can't see Elinor, Ari, or Olive
anywhere... where are they?

92 LIZZIE 92
I don't know! We've usually found
them by now. They're hiding *much*
better this time.

93 MARY 93
Do you think we should split up to
look?

They stare at one another for a beat.

94 MARY / LIZZIE 94
No way! / We're never splitting up!

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

95 ELINOR (STAGE WHISPER) 95
It's working! They can't see us.

96 ARI (STAGE WHISPER) 96
Shhh! Flowers can't talk!

97 OLIVE (STAGE WHISPER) 97
Neither can trees!

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

98 MARY 98
We've looked everywhere!

99 LIZZIE 99
And they're nowhere!

100 MARY 100
If we can't find them...

101 LIZZIE 101
Then *no-one* can.

They look at each other for a beat.

102 MARY 102
COME OUT, COME OUT, WHERE EVER YOU
ARE!

103 LIZZIE 103
OLLY-OLLY-OXEN-FREE!

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

104 MARY / LIZZIE (SHOCKED) 104
BAAAAAAA!!!

105 ELINOR 105
Here we are! Right in front of you!

106 MARY 106
But how? We looked here!

107 LIZZIE 107
We looked there!

108 MARY / LIZZIE 108
We looked *everywhere*!

109 ELINOR 109
<LAUGHS> We used camouflage to hide
in plain sight!

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

110 OLIVE 110
We found hiding spots that looked
just like us!

Olive tucks herself back behind the rock.

111 ARI 111
So you couldn't see us!

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

112 MARY 112
 That...

113 LIZZIE 113
 Is...

114 MARY / LIZZIE 114
 AMAZING!!!

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

115 MARY 115
 Can we try? We want to camouflage!

116 LIZZIE 116
 Yeah, we want to hide now!

117 ELINOR 117
 <GIGGLES> Of course! I'll count!

Elinor covers her head and counts.

118 ELINOR (CONT'D) 118
 1... 2... 3... etc.

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

119 MARY (STAGE WHISPER, TO LIZZIE) 119
 Psst... what around here looks the
 most like twin goats?

Lizzie shrugs and they bound out, looking for a goat-shaped
hiding space. If possible, unseen behind them are TWO HIDING
SPOTS THAT MATCH THEIR SILHOUETTE AND COLORS.

CU: Elinor turns to camera.

120 ELINOR 120
 Ready or not, here I come!

She bounds out of frame.

IRIS OUT

INT. CLASSROOM -- DAY -- SEGMENT 2

Ms. Mole walks into frame, holding her story book. The kids
(Elinor, Olive, Ari, Mary, Lizzie, Koa, Sally) gather on the
carpet in front of her.

121 MS MOLE 121
 OK, kids! Who likes to play HIDE
 AND SEEK?

122 ELINOR, OLIVE, MARY, LIZZIE, ARI 122
 (ad lib)
 I do / Me! /It's my favorite!

123 MS MOLE 123
 Well, today we are going to learn
 about an animal that plays hide and
 seek ... Under the water!

124 ELINOR, OLIVE, MARY, LIZZIE, ARI 124
 (ad lib)
 Wow!/ Cool!/That's amazing.

Ms. Mole opens the book which reveals an ocean scene.

ANGLE ON: The book illustration animates.

We see an octopus swimming along the ocean.

125 MS MOLE (O.C.) 125
 An octopus is very good at hiding.

126 ELINOR (O.C.) 126
 Why does the octopus hide, Ms.
 Mole?

127 MS MOLE (O.C.) 127
 Good question, Elinor. Sometimes
 the octopus needs to hide to stay
 safe.

We see a friendly-looking shark swim by, it doesn't notice
 the Octopus.

128 MS. MOLE (O.C.) 128
 To stay safe, the octopus can
 change the color of its skin to
 look like the things around it.

We see the octopus change color once.

129 ELINOR, OLIVE, MARY, LIZZIE, ARI 129
 (O.C.)
 WHOOOOA!

130 MS MOLE (O.C.) 130
 It can change into LOTS of
 different colors and patterns.

The octopus changes back to its original color.

131 MS MOLE (CONT'D) 131
I SAID: Change into lots of
different colors and patterns.

The octopus reacts to Ms Mole and flashes through several
colors and patterns.

132 ELINOR, OLIVE, MARY, LIZZIE, ARI 132
(ad lib)
Wow! / That's amazing / Ooh!

133 MS MOLE 133
It can also change its shape!

The octopus changes to look like a blob of nearby algae.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=19&v=PmDTtkZlMwM

134 ARI (O.C.) 134
Wow! Can it look like a rock?

The octopus changes to look like a nearby rock.

135 ELINOR (O.C.) 135
Can it look like sand?

The octopus changes to look like the sea floor.

136 OLIVE (O.C.) 136
Can it look like a banana?

The octopus doesn't react.

BACK ON: the kids look at Olive, puzzled.

137 OLIVE (CONT'D) 137
(giggling)
I just like bananas!

BACK ON: The book. The octopus tries its best to look like a
banana.

138 MS MOLE (O.C.) 138
Remember, kids, the best way to
hide in Nature is to look like the
things around you. We call that
'camouflage'. It makes you harder
to see!

BACK ON: The Classroom. Ms. Mole has disappeared! The book
is open on the desk.

139 ELINOR, OLIVE, MARY, LIZZIE, ARI 139
 (ad lib)
 Huh?/Wait a minute/Where did Ms.
 Mole go?/She was just here!

Suddenly, Ms. Mole jumps from the nearest wall. She's wearing
an octopus costume that was painted to look like the wall.

140 MS MOLE 140
 Ah-HA! Here I am!

141 ELINOR, OLIVE, MARY, LIZZIE, ARI 141
 (laughter, giggles ad lib)
 Wow!/Nice one Ms. Mole!/Didn't see
 you at ALL!!

142 MS MOLE 142
 And that's the end of our story!

THE END.