

ELINOR WONDERS WHY
EP# 107B No Need to Shout

By Kate Barris

Elinor's Question: How can I communicate in a way that is familiar when I can't talk?

Logline: Elinor is supposed to sing a song with her friends but she's lost her voice.

Curriculum Goals:

- SEP 1 - Ask and/or identify cause and effect questions that can be answered by an investigation
- SEP 4d - Talk about and reflect on what happened during an investigation or when solving a problem and why it might have happened (Elinor and her friends observe how other animals communicate without words and determine how they could use those strategies)

(LS8) Begin to understand that there are many different kinds of living things and how they may be the same or different: a. Observe and describe similarities and differences across different types of plants and animals. Elinor and her friends observe there are many different ways to communicate.

- (ND2). (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Systems'): Begin to understand that systems developed in our world often work in similar ways to systems found in the natural world. Elinor realizes that, just like in the natural world, she and her friends express themselves through actions and expressions, not just sounds/talking.

MAIN CHARACTERS: Olive, Ari, Elinor, Mr. Dog
SECONDARY: Mz. Mole, Ari's Mother

FIRST DRAFT: FEB 15, 2019

SECOND DRAFT MAR 8th, 2019

POLISH MAR 27, 2019

RECORD DRAFT: April 1, 2019

ESTABLISHING SHOT: The forest near Elinor's house.

CLOSE: ELINOR'S FOOT as she steps onto a little tree stump.

Elinor taps the baton/twig on a nearby branch.

She starts to "conduct" with her baton and Ari and Olive start to sing. They do some little hand gestures that go along with the song. (Elinor's voice is always **loudest**, as she shouts with glee - in a pleasant non-irritating way.)

4

ARI/OLIVE/ ELINOR

(singing)

Ari/Olive - If you feel...

Elinor (gleefully shouted) **Glad!**

Ari/Olive - Let me know you're **glad**

All - And we'll be **glad** together!

Ari/Olive - If you feel..

Elinor (shouted, pleasantly) **Sad!**

Ari/Olive - Let me know you're **sad**.

All: And I'll try to make it
better.

Ari/Olive - If you feel..

Elinor (shouted) **Silly!**

Ari/Olive - Let me know you're
silly.

All - And we'll laugh and giggle
together.

Olive - So always let your **feelings**
out

Ari - **Smile** or **frown** or **giggle** and
shout

Elinor - 'Cause I can be a friend
for real

(MORE)

4

ARI/OLIVE/ ELINOR (CONT'D)

All - If I know just how you feel!
If I know just how you feeeeeeel!

The three of them look very pleased.

5 OLIVE 5
Wow! Everyone's going to love our
song.

6 ARI 6
Yeah! I can't wait to sing it to
Mz. Mole and the whole class
tomorrow.

They get to a fork in the path.

7 ELINOR 7
I want it to be perfect, so I'm
going to practice and practice and
practice.

8 OLIVE 8
Don't forget what Mz. Mole said: If
you practice too much, you might
lose your voice.

9 ARI 9
My dad lost his voice once. He
couldn't talk for a whole day.

10 ELINOR 10
I'm just so excited, I can't stop
singing. See you tomorrow.

Ari and Olive waves as Elinor goes one way and Ari and Olive
go the other.

As Elinor walks, she sings **loudly**.

11 ELINOR (CONT'D) 11
(singing)
*If you feel **glad***
*Let me know you're **glad***
*And we'll be **glad** together...*

2. INT. ELINOR'S HOUSE - MONTAGE

We see Elinor in a series of snippets, singing **very loudly**.

1. Elinor at the dinner table, her parents amused; 2. Elinor
at her desk colouring; 3. Elinor in the bathtub surrounded by
bubbles; 4. Elinor brushing her teeth (so song is garbled);
5. Elinor poking her head through her pyjama top; 6.

Sitting in bed, flipping through a book; 7. Elinor lying in bed at night facing one way; 8. Elinor lying in bed facing the other way.

*Elinor: If you feel **sad...**
 Let me know you're **sad...**
 And I'll try to make it **better!**
 If you feel **silly...**
 Let me know you're **silly**
 And we'll laugh and giggle
together!
 So always let your **feelings** out
 Just **smile** or **frown** or **giggle** and
shout
 'Cause I can be a **friend** for **real**
 If I know just how you **feel!**
 If I know just how you **feel!***

Just before Elinor reaches the end of the song, we CUT to a WIDE SHOT of the house at NIGHT, as the last light goes out and her SINGING FADES.

Then, there's the first pink of sunrise and it's morning.

3. EXT. OUTSIDE ELINOR'S HOUSE - MORNING

Olive and Ari are at the path to Elinor's house. They look at each other, both getting the same idea then they both run up to the door, and get to the door, knocking at the same time. After a beat, the door opens and Elinor comes out.

12	ARI	12
	Hi Elinor! Are you ready to sing our song in class today?	

Elinor <SFX: CROAKS>

13	OLIVE	13
	What's wrong with your voice?	

14	ARI	14
	Do you have a cold?	

Elinor shakes her head "no".

15	OLIVE	15
	Then why does your voice sound scratchy like that?	

Elinor shrugs.

16 ARI 16

Wait a second. Did you practice our
song all night?

Elinor shrugs and then nods, slightly apologetically. Olive suddenly realizes what's happened.

17 OLIVE 17
Ah! You practiced so much you lost
your voice!

Elinor shrugs and nods again, a bit more apologetically.

18 ARI 18
What about our song? We told Mz.
Mole we'd sing it today.

Elinor, Ari and Olive look concerned.

19 OLIVE 19
We can't sing the song without you.
We made it up to sing **together**.

20 ARI 20
Right. If you don't sing, we don't
sing.

Elinor shrugs, looking very sorry. Olive and Ari don't want her to feel bad.

21 ARI (CONT'D) 21
If you lost your voice from all
that practicing, maybe you just
need to give it a rest.

22 OLIVE 22
Yeah. Maybe if you don't talk for a
while, it'll be okay by the time we
get to school.

Ari looks concerned.

23 ARI 23

Speaking of time - we better get to
school. Let's go!

4. EXT. ON THE PATH TO SCHOOL - A LITTLE LATER

As they skip along together, they meet up with MR. DOG.

24	ARI		24
	Look! There's Mr. Dog! Hi, Mr. Dog!		

They group around him, with Olive on one side, Elinor on the other side and Ari nearer his rear end.

25 MR. DOG 25
Good morning, kids! How nice to see you!

ANGLE ON: Mr. Dog's tail is wagging so vigorously that he keeps hitting Ari with it (Mr. Dog doesn't realize it).

26 ARI 26
(giggles) Mr. Dog! Your tail is tickling me!

Mr. Dog looks at his back end and chuckles.

27 MR. DOG 27
Oops! (chuckle) Sorry Ari! I can't help it! Wagging our tail is the way we dogs show we're happy. And I'm happy to see you!

28 OLIVE 28
We're happy to see you too.

29 ARI 29
Yeah. Except we don't have a tail to wag.

Elinor smiles and nods. Mr. Dog reacts with curiosity.

30 MR. DOG 30
You're awfully quiet today Elinor.

Elinor tries but nothing comes out, so Olive helps out.

31 OLIVE 31
We made up a new song and Elinor practiced it so much last night, her voice got lost.

32 ARI 32
Yeah, and we're supposed to sing it for the whole class, but we can't unless Elinor gets her voice back.

Mr. Dog's ears droop and his tail stops wagging as he turns to Elinor.

33 MR. DOG 33
Elinor! After all that practicing, you must be disappointed you can't sing your song.

As Elinor nods sadly, Olive notices Mr. Dog's ears droop and Ari notices Mr. Dog's tail has stopped hitting him.

34 ARI 34
Hey. Your tail stopped wagging and
tickling me.

Olive points to Mr. Dog's ears.

35 OLIVE 35

And your ears went down too. Is
that because you're sad for Elinor?

Mr. Dog raises and lowers his ears and the kids watch in fascination.

36 MR. DOG 36
My ears do show how I'm feeling.
But I don't feel sad for Elinor. I
just understand how she feels.

37 OLIVE 37

And we understand how **you** feel!
Even when you don't say anything,
everyone knows how you're feeling
because they see your tail and
ears.

Mr. Dog's tail wags.

38 MR. DOG 38
Those are two ways we dogs
communicate, Olive.

39 OLIVE 39
As Elinor would say, That's soooo
interesting!

They all respond with smiles.

40 MR. DOG 40
Well, I'd better get back to my
work. I hope you all get to perform
your song - one way or another!

Elinor smiles and waves to Mr. Dog.

41 ARI 41
Bye Mr. Dog!

As they start to head off, Elinor pauses, clearly thinking.

5. EXT. CLOSER TO SCHOOL - A LITTLE LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari are almost at school when they hear...

42 ARI'S MOM (O.S.) 42
Ari! Ari! You forgot your lunch!

They turn and see ARI'S MOM catching up to them, with his lunchbox. In her other arm she's got Ari's baby sister MIRI. Ari puts his palm to his forehead, in an "Oh man!" Gesture.

43 ARI 43
Whoa! I forgot my lunch? How does that even happen?

44 ARI'S MOM 44
You were so excited about singing your song. Are you two as excited about the song as Ari is?

Ari, Olive and Elinor look slightly disappointed and Ari's Mom reacts.

45 OLIVE 45
We may not be able to sing our song today. Elinor lost her voice.

Elinor shrugs sadly, and Ari's mom looks concerned.

46 ARI 46
She's giving her voice a rest. We hope maybe she'll get it back before the end of the day.

Ari's Mom gives Elinor a reassuring look.

47 ARI'S MOM 47
That's a good plan, Elinor.

Just then Ari's little sister starts fussing, <GURGLING> and waving her hands up and down. Olive reacts.

48 OLIVE 48
Oh! What's wrong with baby Miri?

Ari smiles and waves his arms the same way she just did.

49 ARI 49
She's just hungry. She always goes like this when she's hungry. Don't you, Little Sis. (He gurgles just like her)

The baby <SFX: BABY GIGGLES> Then the baby starts rubbing her eyes.

ARI (CONT'D) 50
And when she rubs her eyes, it
means she's tired, right Mom?

ARI'S MOM

That's right. I'd better get her home for her snack and a nap! I hope Elinor's voice gets better in time to sing your song. Bye!

Ari's Mom gives Ari a kiss on the head and then hurries off.
Olive turns to Ari.

52 OLIVE 52
Wow. You sure know a lot about
babies, Ari.

53 ARI 53

I just know a lot about my baby
sister. I can tell what she wants,
even though she can't talk yet.

54 OLIVE 54

The same way we could tell how Mr.
Dog felt because his tail was
wagging and his ears drooped down.

As Elinor is taking in the conversation between Ari and Olive, we can see from her expression that she's got an idea. She starts tugging Olive's arm.

55 OLIVE (CONT'D) 55
What is it Elinor? Did you get your
voice back?

Elinor shakes her head no, then points to her temple.

56 ARI 56
Do you have a headache?

She shakes her head no again. Then she holds one finger up, in a kind of "aha!" gesture and has a big smile.

[illegible]

Elinor shakes her head, points to her temple then draws a circle above her head, kind of like a thought bubble.

58 OLIVE 58
You have an idea??

Elinor nods her head vigorously.

59 ARI 59
All right! What's your idea?

Elinor points to them, then acts like she's singing.

60 ARI (CONT'D) 60
What's she doing?

Elinor tries again, this time doing some of the hand gestures that they did earlier when they sang the song.

61 OLIVE 61
Oh! You want us to sing our song?

Elinor nods vigorously.

62 ARI 62
But we already said we don't want
to sing the song without you.

Elinor points two fingers at Ari and Olive's eyes then to herself.

63 OLIVE 63
You want us to look at you?

Elinor nods then smiles a great big smile, and points at her smiling mouth.

64 OLIVE (CONT'D) 64
You're happy?

Elinor nods, then makes a sad face and points at her mouth.

[illegible]

Olive suddenly starts to smile.

66 OLIVE 66
I do! We can tell how Elinor is
feeling by the look on her face.

Ari still isn't getting it.

67 ... Okay? ARI 67

Elinor smiles mischievously and wags her butt. Olive gets it right away but Ari is still puzzled.

68 OLIVE 68
Ah! Just like we could tell Mr. Dog
was happy when he wagged his tail!

Elinor smiles and nods, and then gestures as if she's holding
cradling a baby, then rubs her eyes the way Ari's sister did
earlier. Ari's face lights up.

69 ARI 69
And the way little Miri let us know
she was tired by rubbing her eyes.

70 OLIVE 70
Exactly! That's soooo interesting!

Elinor jumps up and down happily - she knows Olive is on the
same track as she is.

71 ARI 71
Wait, I don't get it.

Olive ushers them toward the school.

72 OLIVE 72
Elinor's figured out a way to sing
our song even if she doesn't have
her voice! C'mon, I'll explain on
the way!

6. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

ON MZ. MOLE: Who looks a little surprised as Elinor, Ari and
Olive rush up to her.

73 ARI/OLIVE 73
Mz. Mole! Mz. Mole!

74 MZ. MOLE 74
Oh! Good morning, my fine singing
students. Are you all ready to sing
your new Feelings Song for the
class?

The kids excitedly tell their story.

75 ARI 75
Well, we thought we weren't going
to be able to sing our song.

76 OLIVE 76
Because Elinor practiced so much
that she lost her voice.

Elinor nods and gestures that she can't talk.

77	ARI	77
	And we didn't want to sing The Feelings Song without Elinor.	

Mz. Mole nods, understanding.

78	OLIVE	78
	But then we made some observations.	

79	MZ. MOLE	79
	You did? Good for you! What did you observe?	

Elinor repeats her wagging tail motion, imitating Mr. Dog.
Mz. Mole looks confused.

80	MZ. MOLE (CONT'D)	80
	Um ... I'm not sure I understand.	

81	OLIVE	81
	We observed that when Mr. Dog wagged his tail, that meant he was happy.	

All three wag their butts and Mz. Mole <chuckles>.

82	OLIVE (CONT'D)	82
	So even if he didn't <i>talk</i> to us, we could tell how he felt.	

83	ARI	83
	Yeah, and then we observed my little sister and I knew she was hungry because when she's hungry, she always does <i>this</i> ...	

The three of them wave their arms and Mz. Mole laughs.

84	ARI (CONT'D)	84
	So we knew how she felt.	

85	OLIVE	85
	And that gave Elinor ...	

All three of them point to their temple.

86	ARI/OLIVE	86
	An idea!	

87 ARI 87

Even if you can't use your voice,
there are ways to show your friends
how you feel, or what you're
thinking.

88 OLIVE 88

Yeah. By the way your face looks or
your body moves. So Elinor helped
us realize we can sing our song...

89 ARI/OLIVE 89
With Elinor!

Elinor smiles and points to her smiling face!

7. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Ari and Olive in front of the class with Mz. Mole.

90 MZ. MOLE 90
And now, Ari, Olive and Elinor are
going to present The Feelings Song!

91 OLIVE 91
Ari and I are going to sing, but
Elinor's going to *show* the feelings
instead of singing them.

92 ARI 92
Yeah and if you can tell what she's
feeling, you can join in!

Elinor conducts as she did earlier. NOTE ON THE SONG: Would be great to have other kids voices shout the emotions (glad, sad, silly) depending on the pairing of this Ep.

93 ARI/OLIVE 93
 (singing)
Ari/Olive - *If you feel...*

Elinor shows a big smily face and puts her hands on her hips.

We see the kids looking at Elinor and trying to understand her expression.

94 SALLY 94
She looks... happy?

Or glad!

MARY

96

ARI

96

That's right!

They start again, and Elinor puts on her happy face again.

NOTE: It would be best if we get extra kid voices to shout the one shouted word. Not sure how to put this in the song.

Ari/Olive - *If you feel...*
 Ari/Olive/Kids TBD (shouted) **Glad!**
 Ari/Olive (singing) *Let me know*
you're glad
And we'll be glad together!
 Ari/Olive - *If you feel..*

Elinor makes a sad face.

On the kids observing Elinor's expression.

97

MARY

97

Now she's sad.

98

OLIVE

98

Yes!

Ari/Olive/Kids TBD(shouted) **Sad!**
 Ari/Olive (Singing)- *Let me know*
you're sad.
And I'll try to make it better.
If you feel..

Elinor makes a silly face.

Ari/Olive/ Kids TBD(shouted) **Silly!**
 Ari/Olive - *Let me know you're*
silly.
And we'll laugh and giggle
together.

Elinor dances expressively, miming what they're singing (e.g. She opens her arms out on "Let your feelings out") .

Olive - *So always let your feelings*
out
 Ari - *Smile or frown or giggle and*
shout
 Ari/Olive - *'Cause I can be a*
friend for real
If I know just how you feel!
If I know just how you feeeeeeeel!

The class reacts with great <SF: APPLAUSE>

99 MZ. MOLE 99

That was a wonderful! Thank you
for showing us there are a lot of
ways to communicate how we feel!
It's important to communicate in
many ways.

100 OLIVE 100

I think our song was even better
with Elinor showing the feelings.

101 ARI 101

Me too. What do you think Elinor?

Elinor tries to speak.

102 ELINOR 102

(croaky but better than earlier) I
feel ...

Then she makes a great big smiley face and wiggles her butt
like they did earlier.

103 ARI 103

You don't have to say how you feel
Elinor - we can tell. You feel
very...

104 OLIVE 104

Very...

105 ARI 105

Happy!

THE END