ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EWW109B One of These Goats is Not Like the Other

Written by Kate Barris

Elinor's Question: If two things seem to be identical, how can we tell them apart?

Logline: Elinor wants to help the substitute teacher tell which Goat Twin is Mary and which is Lizzie.

Curriculum Goals:

• LS3.B: Variation of Traits: Individuals of the same kind of plant or animal are recognizable as similar but can also vary in many ways (Elinor and her friends observe the differences between the twins Mary and Lizzie)

• SEP 3b – Compare and contrast objects and events by describing similarities and differences (Elinor and her friends observe the differences between the twins Mary and Lizzie)

• SEP 3d – Plan and conduct simple investigations using simple tool (Elinor and her friends make a simple chart to keep track of their observations).

Main Characters: Elinor, Olive, Ari, Mr. Hamster, Lizzie, Mary

Incidentals: Classroom kids

Settings: Playground, Classroom

Props: Big paper, crayons, Olive's Notebook, two barrettes, CU: of horns, hoofs) NB Lizzie and Mary need coats in this one.

FIRST DRAFT: FEBRUARY 18, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: MARCH 13, 2019

POLISH DRAFT: APRIL 15, 2019

RECORD DRAFT: APRIL 26, 2019

1. EXT. SCHOOL PLAYGROUND - MORNING

ESTABLISHING SHOT: ELINOR, ARI and OLIVE are peeking through some leaves. There are kids playing.

ELINOR'S P.O.V.: Looking at the kids playing, through leaves.

1 ELINOR 1
Do you see him yet?

ON: Elinor, Ari and Olive are hunched behind a shrub peering at the playground.

2 OLIVE 2
Not sure. We've never met him so we don't know what he looks like.

3 ARI 3
Good point. What did Mz. Mole say?

4 ELINOR 4
She said we're going to have a *substitute* teacher named Mr. Hamster.

Suddenly we see MR. HAMSTER enter the playground, looking a little unsure as he gazes around at the children.

5 ELINOR (CONT'D) 5
(gasp) That must be him. Let's go meet him.

Elinor, Olive and Ari run out from behind the shrub and surround Mr. Hamster, who looks a little surprised.

6 ELINOR (CONT'D) 6
Hi! Are you our substitute teacher?

7 MR. HAMSTER 7
That's me! I'm Mr. Hamster.

8 OLIVE 8
We thought so.

9 MR. HAMSTER 9
Well, now that you know who *I* am, I'd like to know who *you* are.

10 ELINOR 10
(enthusiastically)
I'm Elinor. I like to learn all kinds of things. I think nature is sooo interesting. I ask a lot of questions.
(MORE)

ELINOR (CONT'D)
I don’t think you can ever ask too many questions. What do you think?

11 MR. HAMSTER 11
(chuckle) I think it’s very nice to meet you, Elinor.

He turns to Olive.

12 OLIVE 12
I’m Olive. I like reading - especially my nature book. See?

Olive pulls her book out of her satchel for him to see.

13 MR. HAMSTER 13
I have the same book! Nice to meet you too, Olive.

He turns to where Ari was, but he isn’t there.

14 MR. HAMSTER (CONT’D) 14
And you are ... where did you go?

15 ARI 15
Over here!

Mr. Hamster looks and discovers that Ari is hanging upside-down from a nearby branch.

16 ARI (CONT’D) 16
I’m Ari. And I can hang upside-down!

He turns his head UPSIDE-DOWN to say hi to Ari.

17 MR. HAMSTER 17
Haha! Hi, Ari.

Ari swings from the branch, does a loop-de-loop and lands in front of Mr. Hamster. He <SFX: LAUGH> and starts to move toward the school. The kids follow.

18 MR. HAMSTER (CONT’D) 18
Thanks for introducing yourselves. When you’re new like me, it’s hard to get to know everyone - and remember their names!

Elinor stops, surprised.

19 ELINOR 19
That's soooo interesting! I've never thought about that. How do you remember who's who?

20 MR. HAMSTER 20
Well, I try to look closely, and notice what makes each of you different.

He points to Elinor, then Olive and then Ari.

21 MR. HAMSTER (CONT'D) 21
For instance, you, Elinor, have long white ears, and like to ask questions, and you, Olive have a lovely long trunk and like to read your nature book and Ari...

Mr. Hamster turns his head upside down again.

22 MR. HAMSTER (CONT'D) 22
You have wings and like to hang upside down!

Elinor, Olive and Ari are pleased.

23 ELINOR 23
Wow! Well, you can ask US if you need any help remembering the other kids in the class.

Mr. Hamster smiles and heads off toward the class.

2. INT. CLASSROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Mr. Hamster stands in front of the desk as the kids start to gather on the circle rug.

24 MR. HAMSTER 24
Good morning everyone. I'll be your substitute teacher while Mz. Mole is away. My name is Mr. Hamster and I hope to get to know each of you by the end of the day.

The last to come in and look for a place on the rug are Mary and Lizzie. NOTE: They're both wearing coats over their dresses. Also: They're both wearing what seem like IDENTICAL light blue BARRETTES. Mr. Hamster looks surprised.

25 MR. HAMSTER (CONT'D) 25
Oh! Why don't I start with you two.

26 MARY 26
Hi, I'm Mary.

27 LIZZIE 27
And I'm Lizzie.

28 MARY AND LIZZIE 28
We're the Goat Twins.

Mr. Hamster is clearly taken aback.

29 MR. HAMSTER 29
Well! It's *twice* as nice to meet you.

Elinor is eager to be helpful.

30 ELINOR 30
They're identical twins. That means they look exactly the same.

The twins start to take off their coats, but Olive and Elinor have their backs to them so they don't see. But Ari does.

31 OLIVE 31
But even though they're identical, it's easy to tell them apart. Mary always wears a *green* dress.

32 ELINOR 32
And Lizzie always wears a *blue* dress.

As they're talking, Ari sees the Twins, in sync, remove their coats … and reveal that both of them are wearing THE SAME BLUE DRESS! He reacts in a BIG way, tapping Elinor on the arm trying to get her attention.

33 ARI 33
Not today!!

Elinor and Olive turn to see that they're in identical dresses.

34 MARY 34
I got my green dress dirty.

35 LIZZIE 35
So she had to wear a blue one. So today...

36 MARY AND LIZZIE 36
We're super-duper identical!

Mr. Hamster is a bit taken aback, but recovers.

37 MR. HAMSTER 37
Well, I'm going to do my best to learn to tell you apart by the end of the day.

He picks up a large piece of paper and a crayon and holds them up, as if they're somehow magical, and wiggling his eyebrows.

38 MR. HAMSTER (CONT'D) 38
In fact, I know an activity we can do with paper and crayon ... And when we're done, you'll notice one way that ***everyone*** is different from each other.

3. INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

Elinor is lying on a large piece of paper on the floor as Olive finishes drawing her outline.

39 OLIVE 39
Okay, done!

Elinor gets up and Olive holds up the piece of paper. We see that the outline looks just like Elinor.

40 OLIVE (CONT'D) 40
Ha. I drew around you with the crayon, and the shape looks exactly like you, Elinor.

Elinor holds up at larger piece of paper, which shows an outline of Olive.

41 ELINOR 41
And this shape looks exactly like you.

Mr. Hamster comes by to see.

42 MR. HAMSTER 42
Very nice, Elinor and Olive. That's called an outline. See, everyone can tell who you are because you're all a different shape.

Elinor spots something across the room and reacts.

43 ELINOR 43
Uh oh.

They turn and look at Mary and Lizzie who are holding up identical outlines. Ari is holding a drawing of his outline but looking at Mary and Lizzie, bewildered.

44 ARI 44
Hmm. Is that Mary? Or Lizzie?

Mary and Lizzie look at each other's outline and shrug.

45 MARY 45
Everybody else might be different from each other. But...

46 MARY AND LIZZIE 46
We're exactly the same.

Mr. Hamster looks a little perplexed.

4. EXT. PLAYGROUND - LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari are in the playground watching Mary and Lizzie swing back and forth on the swings.

47 ELINOR 47
There must be some way that Mary and Lizzie are different.

48 ARI 48
But they have the same colored eyes, the same colored hair, the same everything! They're the same!

49 OLIVE 49
So how do we tell them apart?

Just then, a beautiful YELLOW AND BLACK BUTTERFLY flits by. (NOTE: *They can be any colors, I'm just using yellow and black for now.*) It catches Elinor's attention.

50 ELINOR 50
Oooh, look! A butterfly.

Then a second YELLOW AND BLACK BUTTERFLY flits by.

51 ARI 51
Huh! There's another one.

The two butterflies land on a nearby branch, and settle, moving their wings every so often. We see that they both look the same and have spots on their wings.

52 OLIVE 52
Look at that. They're the same.

53 ARI 53
They're identical! Like the Goat Twins.

Elinor's attention is caught by what Ari says. She looks closely at the two butterflies.

54 ELINOR 54
Hmmm ... *Are* they identical?

55 ARI 55
They're the same colors - yellow and black.

56 OLIVE 56
And they both have spots on their wings.

57 ELINOR 57
Hmm. I wonder. Do you have your magnifying glass, Olive?

58 OLIVE 58
Sure do.

She pulls out a MAGNIFYING GLASS from her satchel and hands it to Elinor who looks VERY CLOSELY at the butterflies.

59 ELINOR 59
Thanks. ... Huh! That's sooooo interesting!

CLOSE ON: The two butterflies. We see that they both have spots, but one butterfly has large black spots and the other has small black spots.

60 ELINOR (CONT'D) 60
One butterfly has smaller spots than the other.

61 ARI 61
Ohhh...

62 OLIVE 62
So they *aren't* identical.

63 ELINOR 63
No. They just *looked* identical at first. Until we looked more closely and noticed that they were different.

Olive and Elinor look at each other, excited.

64 OLIVE 64
Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

Ari looks a bit confused.

65 ARI 65
What? What are you thinking that I'm not thinking?

66 ELINOR 66
If we want to tell Mary and Lizzie apart, we have to look more closely.

67 OLIVE 67
Yes, and see if there's *some* way they're different.

68 ELINOR 68
Grab your notebook, Olive. We need MORE observations!

Elinor hands Olive her magnifying glass as Olive opens her satchel, puts it in and takes out her notebook.

5. EXT. PLAYGROUND - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari go over to Mary and Lizzie, who are swinging, in synch back and forth.

69 ELINOR 69
Hi Mary. Hi Lizzie.

They <giggle> and point to each other.

70 MARY 70
She's Lizzie.

71 LIZZIE 71
And she's Mary.

72 ELINOR 72
Wouldn't it be great if we could find a way to tell you apart?

The Goat Twins stop swinging.

73 MARY 73
You think you can?

74 LIZZIE 74
How are you going to do that?

75 ELINOR 75
By looking more closely, like Mr. Hamster said.

76 ARI 76
Maybe we'll see something that we missed before.

77 OLIVE 77
Is it okay if we watch you while you play?

They look at each other in unison and nod in unison.

78 MARY AND LIZZIE 78
Sure!

79 ELINOR 79
Ready, Olive?

80 OLIVE 80
Ready.

CLOSE ON: Olive creates a TABLE on her page, with a drawing of Mary (in her green dress) at the top of one column and a drawing of Lizzie (in blue) at the top of the other.

81 OLIVE (CONT'D) 81
This is Mary ... and this is Lizzie.

As Mary and Lizzie hop off the swings, a gust of wind blows their hair out of place, and they simultaneously brush their hair back, and adjust their barrettes. They're both blue and have a pattern.

Elinor notices the barrettes.

82 ELINOR 82
They both have barrettes in their hair.

Ari picks up on it and looks at them.

83 ARI 83
And both barrettes are blue with dots on them.

Elinor wrinkles her brow.

84 ELINOR 84
Wait a second. Let's look more closely.

Ari and Elinor look at Lizzie's barrette, then at Mary's. We see Lizzie's has DOTS but Mary's has STARS.

85 ELINOR (CONT'D) 85
Lizzie's barrette is blue with dots. And Mary's...

86 ARI 86
... is blue with *stars*!

87 ELINOR 87
They're different!

Olive draws a blue barrette with dots under her drawing of Lizzie and a blue barrette with stars under Lizzie.

88 ARI 88
We just started looking closer and we already found one difference.

Mary and Lizzie look pleased.

89 ELINOR 89
We need more observations!

6. EXT. PLAYGROUND - MONTAGE

MUSIC UNDER: NOBODY'S EXACTLY THE SAME

Elinor, Olive and Ari watch Mary and Lizzie play pattycake. As they put their front hooves together, Elinor gets them to pause, and we get a close look at their front hooves. We see that they're all the same except that Mary has a BROWN STRIPE on one front hoof, but Lizzie does not.

Olive draws two hooves in the Lizzie column and two hooves in the Mary column and adds the brown stripe to the one hoof in Mary's column.

As Mary and Lizzie sit in the sandbox beside each other, building a castle, Ari goes around behind Mary and Lizzie observing their horns. They react with giggles as he puts his hand on top of one horn and then measures across to the other horn on Mary's head. They're the same height.

Then he does the same with Lizzie's horns but when his hand crosses to the second horn, it knocks into it. The other horn is longer!

Olive draws two horns in each column, but in Lizzie's column, she draws one horn longer.

Elinor, Olive and Ari look at each other victoriously.

90 ELINOR 90
Cool! We looked more closely and we found *three ways* the Goat Twins are different from each other. Their barrettes, their hooves and the size of their horns.

91 ARI 91
Celebration dance!!

Ari does a little dance.

92 MARY 92
I like to dance.

Mary joins him but Lizzie shakes her head.

93 LIZZIE 93
Not me. I'd rather watch Mary than dance. Look at her go!

Olive and Elinor look at each other in surprise.

94 ELINOR 94
Mary likes to dance.

95 OLIVE 95
And Lizzie doesn't. That makes *four* ways you're different!

96 ELINOR 96
I can't wait to tell Mr. Hamster!

7. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

As the rest of the class troops into the classroom, Elinor, Olive and Ari rush up to Mr. Hamster, with Mary and Lizzie.

97 ELINOR 97
Mr. Hamster! You were right! Everyone IS different!

Mr. Hamster shows he's pleased with a victory gesture.

98 MR. HAMSTER 98
Aha! How did you figure it out?

99 ARI 99
By observing the Goat Twins. They *look* like they're identical.

100 OLIVE 100
But if you look more closely, you can find differences. See?

Olive shows Mr. Hamster the table she made.

SONG: NOBODY'S EXACTLY THE SAME

Elinor gets Mary and Lizzie to stand in front of Mr. Hamster as he compares them to Olive's table, and then SINGS.

101 ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE 101
(singing)
ELINOR: One of these goats is not like the other.
ALL: Nobody's exactly the same.

Elinor points to the two different barrettes and Mr. Hamster looks at the twins and then at the table.

ARI - You can be a lot like your sister or brother
OLIVE But you'll never be exactly the same.

Ari and Elinor point to the twins' hooves and Mr. Hamster sees the striped one and then sees the striped one on Olive's table.

ALL: 'Cause everyone's unique
In their own special way

Elinor demonstrates Mary's longer horn.

ARI: And you have to look close to see it

Ari does his little dance, and Mary joins him but Lizzie smiles and watches.

OLIVE: Just take a closer peek
At what they do and say

Mr. Hamster sees Mary dancing and Lizzie standing firm, and notes the drawing on Olive's table and nods happily.

ELINOR: And you'll notice, I guarantee it!
ALL: 'Cause each one of us is not like the other
Nobody's exactly the same!
Nobody's exactly the same!

As Elinor, Olive and Ari finish their song, and Ari and Mary finish their dance, they congratulate each other, Mary and Lizzie jump up and down and Mr. Hamster <SFX: APPLAUDS>.

102 MR. HAMSTER 102
That was wonderful!

He turns very pointedly to Mary, then to Lizzie.

103 MR. HAMSTER (CONT'D) 103
And that was nice dancing Mary! And great watching, Lizzie.

Mary and Lizzie are tickled pink.

104 MARY AND LIZZIE 104
You could tell us apart!

105 MR. HAMSTER 105
Of course! You know how?

106 ELINOR 106
By looking more closely!

107 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 107
Because nobody's exactly the same!

END.