

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 109 Look What I Can Do!
(formerly: Different Kinds of Plants)
By: Dave Dias

Elinor's Question: What am I good at doing in soccer?

Logline: After Elinor observes her classmates excel at different soccer skills she discovers her own ability - and Ari's too!

Curriculum Goals:

LS8. - Begin to understand that there are many different kinds of living things and how they may be the same or different. (Elinor notices that all her friends have different soccer abilities that are related to their bodies.

SEP7. Engaging in argument from evidence: a. Engage in discussions before, during, and after investigations. b. Support thinking and argue ideas with evidence. (Elinor discusses her observations with Ms. Mole and through the song she comes to the conclusions that everyone is good at something.)

OUTLINE: January 7, 2019
FIRST DRAFT: January 24, 2019
SECOND DRAFT: February 11, 2019

1. EXT. SOCCER FIELD BORDERING FOREST - DAY

TITLE CARD: Look What I Can Do!

MS. MOLE, who's carrying a NET BAG FULL OF SOCCER BALLS over one shoulder, and an individual SOCCER BALL in her free hand, leads ELINOR and her CLASSMATES - OLIVE (holding a BOOK), ARI (holding a SOCCER BALL), SALLY BEAVER, SILAS CHEETAH, TITO MOUSE, and the GOAT TWINS - out into a FIELD near the school. Ms. Mole blows her <WHISTLE BLOW!> to get the kids' attention. *

1 MS. MOLE 1
All right class, who's ready to
play soccer?

2 ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE/GOAT TWINS 2 *
Me!/ I am!/ Let's go!/ Yeah! *

Ms. Mole drops the ball in her hand and kicks it out towards the field - quite far! Some of the kids race after it as a group. Elinor, Olive and Ari hang back. *

3 ELINOR 3
I can't wait to start playing!

4 ARI 4
Yeah! Me too, Elinor! I bet I'm
going to be a super sensational
soccer star!

Ari tosses the ball up and attempts a fancy footwork dance, but ends up tripping on the ball when it falls back down.

5 ARI 5
Oof! Ok, maybe I should learn to
play first.

6 ELINOR 6
Oh, Ari. What are you reading,
Olive?

7 OLIVE 7
It's the rule book. It tells you
all the things you can and can't do
when you play soccer.
(pause)
Reading about the rules is my
favorite part of ANY game.

8 ELINOR 8
Really? My favorite part of any
game is the PLAYING part! Let's go! *

Elinor runs up to catch up with Ms. Mole and the other kids follow. We're now at the field, which is a clearing in the forest near some trees. Ms. Mole blows her <WHISTLE!> and the kids gather around her. Ms. Mole empties the bag of balls out onto an area of grass beside her. *

9 MS. MOLE 9
Ok, kids! Soccer is a wonderful game where you play with a ball in all kinds of different ways.
(she demos)
You can run with it, kick it, or bounce it off your body, but the only thing you CAN'T do is use your hands, unless you're the goalie.

Elinor looks on excitedly. Olive looks up from her book and points at the nearest NET.

10 OLIVE 10
The goalie's the one who tries to stop the ball from going in the net, right Ms. Mole? *

11 MS. MOLE 11
That's right, Olive. I see you found my rule book! (to all)
Goalies can use their hands, but everyone else has to use the other parts of their body - like their FEET! *

Ms. Mole walks up to a nearby ball and does some super duper fancy footwork with it. *

12 MS. MOLE 12
But the most important thing is to just have fun and do your best.
Remember, everyone is good at different things! *

Then Ms. Mole kicks the ball! It flies over the surprised kids's heads-- *

--bounces off the LOG BENCH on the sidelines-- *

--and returns to Ms. Mole as if that was her intention.

The kids are wowed.

13 KIDS 13
Whooooaaaaa...

14 ARI 14
 (aside, to Olive)
That was... AMAZING!

Ms. Mole strolls up to the various balls she poured out of the bag. One by one, she gently kick-passes the balls around to the various kids, who run up and start playing with the balls. She then passes one to Ari. *

15 ARI 15

Ooh!

Excited, Ari does a quick sloop through the air and instinctively grabs the ball with his hands before landing back on the grass.

16 MS. MOLE 16
Ah-ah...! Remember, Ari. No hands.

Ari looks at the ball in his hands. Shocked to realize that he's holding it, he drops it like a hot potato!

17 ARI 17
Ahh! How did that get there? Sorry!

Ms. Mole passes the last ball to Elinor, and she gleefully goes after it. Olive and Elinor start VERY GENTLY kick-rolling the ball to each other.

18 ELINOR 18
Here ya go Olive!

19 OLIVE 19
Right back 'atcha, Elinor.

20 ELINOR 20
Ari?

Elinor passes the ball to Ari.

21	ARI	21
	Ok, watch THIS move!	

He winds up to kick the ball and connects, slipping at the same moment, causing him to do a little backflip.

22 ARI 22

Whoa!

Olive helps Ari up.

23 OLIVE 23
 <giggles> Maybe not *that* move.

24 ARI 24
Thanks, Olive.

Elinor bops the ball over to them again and they continue playing.

At that moment, Ms. Mole blows her <WHISTLE> and the kids
focus on her again. Ms. Mole has moved a bunch of the soccer
balls into a bunch at mid-field. The other kids are gathered
nearby, ready for her next instruction.

25	MS. MOLE	25
	Okay, are you ready to try some fun	*
	soccer moves?	*

26 OLIVE 26 *
I'm ready! *

[illegible]

Elinor, arriving at the sideline, drop-rolls her ball over to Ms. Mole, then raises a hand, excitedly.

28 Me too! ELINOR 28

[illegible]

30 MS. MOLE 30
Splendid! Now, soccer is all about
moving fast, so first, let's do
some running...

The kids line up.

31	MS. MOLE	31
	Ready?... Go!	

The kids start racing across the field, full sprint.

Elinor, Olive (still holding the book) and Ari run as fast as they can, and are having fun running -- but to their surprise, Silas Cheetah blows past them (he's really fast!). The trio are amazed.

32 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 32

WOW!

At the NET at the other end of the field, Silas arrives first, followed a long beat after by the other classmates, then Elinor, Olive, and Ari. Ari looks winded but tries not to show it.

33 ELINOR 33
 Silas! You're really fast!

34 SILAS 34
 Thanks, Elinor!

35 ARI 35
 (panting)
 Whoo! That was a lot of running! I
 usually fly when I'm in a hurry.

36 OLIVE 36
 (consulting the rule book)
 Hmm, there's nothing in the rules
 that say you can't fly, Ari.

Ari perks up.

37 MS. MOLE 37
 (calling)
 Okay! Come on back!

Ms. Mole blows her <WHISTLE!> and the kids start racing back, *
 Ari bringing up the rear. Finally, he stops, shrugs, and
 flies instead.

WIPE TO:

2. EXT. SOCCER FIELD BORDERING FOREST - DRILLS MONTAGE

Ms. Mole has the kids gathered around her. The soccer balls
 are spaced in intervals along the mid-field line.

38 MS. MOLE 38 *
 Now let's try moving the ball in
 different ways.

SERIES OF SHOTS - Ms. Mole demonstrates actions she wants the
 kids to try, then one by one, we see various kids try them:

ON A SOCCER BALL - being dribbled forward by a pair of
 feet... which we reveal are Mrs. Mole's. She's moving the
 ball along the field, keeping it just ahead of her.

39 MS. MOLE 39 *
 Like dribbling it forward. *

She stops, turns back to face the kids, then passes the ball
 back to them.

Elinor dribbles the ball ahead of her with some difficulty,
 then tries to pass the ball to Olive, but she doesn't kick it
 quite right and it goes way to the side.

Mary, one of the goat twins, stops the ball. She does a little fancy footwork, then turns her body away from Elinor and Olive. She looks back and uses her leg to kick the ball up backwards. (SEE DESIGN ATTACHED) The ball does a graceful arc and lands and rolls exactly where Elinor is. Elinor and Olive are super impressed. *

40 ELINOR/OLIVE 40
Wow!/Mary and Liv are good
dribblers! *

They look on and see the twins expertly pass the ball back and forth. *

It's Ari's turn. He tries to dribble the ball but stumbles.

41 ARI 41
Whoa, whoa!

He trips and ends up with the ball in his hands again.

42 MS. MOLE 42
(calling good-naturedly)
Arrrrriiii! Remember, no hands!

Ari smiles sheepishly, puts the ball down, and resumes his awkward dribbling.

WIPE TO:

ON A SOCCER BALL, stationary on the ground.

43 MS. MOLE 43
Now let's see how far you can kick
the ball!

WIDER to see Ms. Mole KICK it, sending the ball OS. She gestures back to the kids for them to go.

Elinor kicks her ball. It goes a moderate distance.

Olive kicks her ball. It goes farther than Elinor's.

Ari kicks his ball. It goes off at an angle, nearly missing some of the other kids.

Ari reacts sheepishly to his mistargeted kick.

44 ARI 44
Sorry!

Sally Beaver steps up to her ball. She thinks about it for a second. Then she has an idea. Instead of kicking it with her

foot, she winds up and with a twist of her body, she whacks the ball with her big tail - hard!

The ball goes REALLY far, all the way into the net at the other end!

Elinor, Olive, and Ari are awed.

45	ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI Oooh, your tail is really strong!/ Great kick, Sally! /That was amazing!	45	* *
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Sally gives an 'aw shucks' reaction.	*
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WIPE TO:

ON A SOCCER BALL - being BOUNCED lightly on a KNEE. REVEAL that Ms. Mole is now keeping the ball up with her knees.

ON: Elinor, Ari, and the other kids, all trying to do it. Each one of them struggles amusingly to do it and they all lose their ball quickly.

46	ARI Whoa, this is hard!	46
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Elinor struggles to do it, but keeps trying happily.

Olive meanwhile, is holding a ball and looking at her leg. She bends a knee and realizes this is going to be difficult for her. She thinks about it for a second, then has a flash of an idea. She consults her book and smiles.

Back on Elinor trying, she hears some steady ball bouncing and looks over to Olive, who is juggling the ball with her trunk -- and she's doing it expertly!

Ari looks surprised.

47	ARI Are you allowed to do that?	47
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Olive continues bopping the ball up with her trunk while she opens a page in the rule book with her hands.

48	OLIVE You can use anything except your hands, Ari! So: yes!	48
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Olive beams as she keeps juggling the ball with her trunk.	*
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ANGLE ON: Ari and Elinor watch their friend with admiration.

49	ARI	49	*
	Wow... Who knew Olive had a 'nose'		*
	for soccer!		*

50 ELINOR 50
 (giggling)
Go OLIVE!

Olive happily waves.

Elinor resumes trying again, somewhat unsuccessfully. A little winded now from her efforts now, she goes to sit on the log bench, joined by Ari.

51	ARI	51
	Training to be a super sensational	*
	soccer star is hard work, huh?	*

Elinor looks over at their other friends playing and doing
really well. *

Yeah... ELINOR

She smiles, but doesn't quite look like her usual perky self. *

Ari looks a little unsure now too. *

Ms. Mole sees them from the field and comes over to them.

53 MS. MOLE 53
What's the matter, soccer stars?

54 ELINOR 54
 <sigh> I'm really excited about
 playing, Ms. Mole... but I don't
 know what I'm good at.

55 ARI 55 *
Me neither. *

56 MS . MOLE 56
Hmmm . . .

Ms. Mole thinks about it for a beat, then seems to have an idea.

57 MS. MOLE 57
What do you mean by that, exactly? *

[illegible]

QUICK CUTAWAYS of the other kids doing what we've seen them do well up to this point, as Elinor mentions them. As she

begins to talk, she perks up, happy to be talking about things she knows and noticed.

SILAS - continuing to run super-fast, around other classmates on the field.

59	ELINOR (O.S.)	59	
	Silas is a really good runner. He's		
	a cheetah, and cheetahs have		
	powerful legs that help them run		*
	fast.		

60	ARI (O.S.)	60	*
	Super fast!		*

Silas stops and we can see he has slightly longer, runner legs.

GOAT TWINS - dribbling and passing the ball between them across the grass.

61	ELINOR (O.S.)	61	
	And Mary and Liv are really good at		*
	passing the ball. That's because		
	goats have strong legs too, only		*
	they use them for climbing and		*
	kicking.		

We see Mary making a perfect backwards kick to Liv. *

62	ARI (O.S.)	62	*
	Right on target.		*

SALLY - hitting a ball with her tail and sending it flying.

63	ELINOR (O.S.)	63	
	Sally is great at kicking the ball		*
	using her tail. Beavers have really		
	big tails that help them swim and		
	slap the water.		

We see Sally wiggle her tail proudly.

64	ARI (O.S.)	64	*
	There's no stopping that tail!		*

OLIVE - bouncing the ball above her head with her trunk.

65	ELINOR (O.S.)	65	
	And Olive is really good at		
	bouncing the ball using her trunk.		
	Elephants have long trunks that		
	they can move in all kinds of ways		
	to grab and push things with.		*

BACK ON THE BENCH - Elinor and Ari continue facing Ms. Mole.

66 ARI 66

Wow! I hadn't noticed all of that
before. I wish I had a trunk!
(mimicking a trumpet) Tooot!

67 ELINOR 67
Everyone is good at something, but
what am I good at, Ms. Mole?

Elinor shrugs and looks puzzled. Ms. Mole takes it all in.

68 MS. MOLE 68
Well, Elinor, I think you ARE
really good at something.

Elinor perks up.

69 Really? ELINOR 69

70 MS. MOLE 70 *

Yes! You are really good at
NOTICING THINGS! Not everyone sees
all the little things that you do!

71 ARI 71
Yeah, you're a superstar at *
noticing things, Elinor! *

72 ELINOR 72
 (thinks about it for a
 beat)
I guess I am... But... is that good
for soccer?

73 MS. MOLE 73

Of course it is! Playing is also about helping others. For example, I bet you could tell us what Ari is good at in soccer.

74	ARI	74
	Oh, I don't think I'm good at it	*
	anything in soccer.	*

Elinor thinks about it for a beat.

75 ELINOR 75 *

Well, Ari... I noticed your wings
are really wide. And you can fly up
really high. And I noticed that you
(MORE)

	ELINOR (CONT'D)	
	are really good at grabbing the ball with your hands.	
76	ARI	76
	Yeah, it's a problem.	
77	ELINOR	77
	No, don't you see? I think you'd be really good at being the goalie! Goalies can grab the ball with their hands!	
78	MS. MOLE	78
	And wings!	
79	ARI	79
	Hey, I like that!	
80	MS. MOLE	80
	See, Elinor? Everyone is different. And everyone is good at different things!	* * *
81	ELINOR	81
	That is SO interesting! We need more observations!	

Elinor runs from the bench onto the field, followed by Ari and Ms. Mole.

3. EXT. SOCCER FIELD BORDERING FOREST - SONG SEQUENCE - CONT.

SERIES OF SHOTS - While they sing, they race onto the field to observe the kids doing soccer drills, with an emphasis on seeing what each of their bodies allow them to do well. In addition to Silas and Sally, we focus on the Goat Twins' dribbling and Olive's deft ball-handling with her trunk.

(SONG NOTE: Sara has flagged preschooler may not immediately make the connection between 'animals" and kids playing soccer, hence the lyric suggestion.)

82	ELINOR (SINGING)	82
	Some kids are really tall, And others are really quick!	* *
83	ARI (SINGING)	83
	Some kids are really small, And some can really kick!	* *
84	ELINOR/ARI (SINGING)	84
	Ring-a-ding-ding it's great to sing We're all good at different things!	

85	ELINOR (SINGING) Playing games is fun for all!	85	*
86	ARI (SINGING) Whether you are tall or small!	86	*
87	ELINOR/ARI (SINGING) Ring-a-ding-ding it's great to sing We're all good at different things! There's always a place for you! No matter what you can do!	87	*

At the end, they grab the ball and are excited to go play again.

88	MS. MOLE Who's ready to play a game?	88
89	ELINOR/ARI Me!/Let's go!	89

4. EXT. SOCCER FIELD BORDERING FOREST - GAME SEQUENCE - DAY

Ms. Mole divides the class into two teams of four, and with another blow of her <WHISTLE>, the game playing begins. *

Silas Cheetah runs really fast to get the ball.

Sally Beaver gives the ball a big tail kick.

The goat twins do some amazing dribbling and passing.

All the while, Elinor and Ari and Olive are enjoying themselves running around going after the ball and occasionally kicking it. Olive gets the ball and starts bopping the ball on her trunk again. *

90	OLIVE <giggles> I LOVE soccer!	90
91	ELINOR Me too!	91

At that moment, Mary bops the ball with her leg, up and over most kids.

Elinor sees it go up -- and takes a biiiiiig HOP, getting to the ball, and bouncing it back with her ears.

When she lands, her friends all cheer!

92 OLIVE 92 *
 Elinor! You're really good at *
 jumping to the ball when it's high *
 up!

Elinor looks down at her rabbit feet. Lifting one up, she beams.

93 ELINOR 93 *
 I guess my rabbit legs and feet are
 good for hopping!

94 OLIVE 94 *
 And your ears are good for stopping *
 the ball - which you're allowed to *
 do because they're not your hands!

Elinor and Olive giggle.

At that second, Mary Goat makes a run for the goal. She gives *
 the ball a good kick.

95 ELINOR 95
 Whooooa...

ANGLE ON: it flies through the air towards the net's crease, *
 going over Sally Beaver's head as it goes. Ari is the goalie, *
 standing by the left goal post, and the ball is sailing *
 toward the upper right corner of the net. Ari quickly swoops *
 to his side, and with a deft extension of his wing, he stops *
 the ball with his hand.

96 SALLY 96 *
 Wow! Nice save, Ari!

97 ARI 97 *
 Thanks, Sally!

Ari repeats the fancy footwork dance from the beginning of the episode.

98 ARI 98
 Oh yeah! Super Sensational Goalie
 Soccer Star!

99 ELINOR 99 *
 <giggles> We make a great team *
 because we're all good at different *
 things! *

QUICK SHOTS of the various kids continuing to play. As they play, Elinor sings the--

SONG REPRISE:

100 ELINOR (SINGING) 100
Ring-a-ding-ding it's great to sing
We're all good at different things!
There's always a place for you! *
No matter what you can do!

SONG ENDS.

Ms. Mole ends the soccer practice with a <WHISTLE BLOW!>

101 MS. MOLE 101
Ok kids, now who wants some
lemonade?

102 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI/SALLY/SILAS 102
Yayyyyyyy!

As the kids race off the field, the soccer ball rolls in from
OS to Ms. Mole -- who does an impressive sequence of ball
maneuvers and kicks, winking at the camera (TBD, do we want *
Ms. Mole to break the 4th wall? We haven't done this before.) *
as we...

IRIS OUT.