

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

112 INTERSTITIAL: MZ. MOLE STORY TIME: BALLOONING SPIDERS

Written by
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Follows "The Wind In The Web"

Curriculum: The kids learn that spiders can travel by releasing silk that catches the wind.

Learning Goals: LS2. Understand that animals have different body parts that are used in different ways to meet their needs, and that plants have different parts that help them survive and grow.

LS4. Understand that all animals and plants have a life cycle, can reproduce, and change and grow over time.

FIRST DRAFT: 12-Apr-19

SECOND DRAFT: 5-May-19

1. INT CLASSROOM -- DAY

ELINOR, ARI and OLIVE are sitting down for story time. MZ. MOLE settles down in front of them. We can see the wind blowing (leaves etc.) outside the window. <SFX: WIND BLOWING>

1	OLIVE	1	
	It's so windy today, Mz. Mole!		
2	MZ. MOLE	2	
	It sure is, Olive. While I was walking here today, my favorite hat blew away!		
3	ELINOR	3	*
	Oh no! The wind can be so PUSHY!		
4	MZ. MOLE	4	
	Yes, but did you know that some critters NEED a push from the wind? Like these spiders!		*
	(she holds up the spider book)		
	Let's take a look...		

Mz. Mole opens the book.

2. EXT OUTSIDE (BOOK) -- DAY

Close up on a small cotton ball-like spider egg sac stuck to a dead leaf on the forest floor. *

5	MZ. MOLE (O.S.)	5	
	This is a nest for baby spiders. Maybe if we're very quiet, a baby will come out.		

A cute baby spider crawls out of the egg sac, peering around. <SFX: KID WALLA AWWWW>

6	MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D)	6	
	Welcome to the world, little one!		

The spiderling waves "hello" with a leg.

7	ELINOR (O.S.)	7	
	Hello little spider.		

8	MZ. MOLE (O.S.)	8	
	But this baby isn't alone. It has brothers and sisters. LOTS of brothers and sisters.		*

Pull back. There are dozens or hundreds of baby spiders on the same leaf. They all wave "hello" with a leg, and the first baby spider jumps in surprise. <SFX: KID WALLA WHOOOA>

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*

9 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 9
So our spider needs to go somewhere
less crowded where it'll have
enough space and lots of food!

The spider walks away from the dead leaf and climbs up a very tall blade of grass.

*

10 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 10
It climbs up to a high point and
sticks out a leg to test the wind.

The spider sticks out a leg to test the air. This is a somewhat windy day, but not a full gale.

11 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 11
The spider makes some silk
threads...

The spider extrudes a bunch of separate, long silk threads from its abdomen.

12 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 12
And WHOOSH, the wind carries it
into the sky!

*

The spider blows aloft over the trees. <SFX: KID WALLA WHOOOOAA>

*

BACK ON: The classroom.

13 ELINOR 13
Mz. Mole, where's our baby spider
going?

14 MZ. MOLE 14
Why, anywhere the wind takes it!

BACK ON: The book, our spider is now joined by his brothers and sisters in the background.

15 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 15
Most spiders sail for a short time,
but some sail for a long time. Ours
could fly as high as a mountain...

BOOK PAGES FLIP to show the spiders bob over a mountain, some spiders land.

*

16 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 16
Or out to sea.

BOOK PAGES FLIP The spiders fly over the ocean, our spider takes the lead. *

17 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 17
But at last... It lands.

BOOK PAGES FLIP The wind gently blows the spider to that forest path from the Wind In The Web episode. *

18 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 18
Good job, spider. This looks like a nice place for a new home!

The spider looks around at the landscape. It jumps up and down happily.

BACK ON: Mz. Mole. She closes the book.

19 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 19
And that's the end of our story about spiders who ride the wind.

20 ELINOR 20
Hmm. I guess the wind's pushiness can be helpful...

Suddenly the <SFX: WIND> blows open the door. Mz. Mole's hat blows in and lands smack on her face. *

21 MZ. MOLE 21
(muffled) Ah, THERE'S my hat. Thank you, wind.

<SFX: KID GIGGLE>

THE END.