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(Based on, If Any)

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in Order of Work Performed)

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1. ~~INTEXT.~~ ~~CLASSROOM~~ ELINOR'S SCHOOL - DAY

~~We join~~ It's another clear day at Elinor's ~~class during~~ school. As we TRUCK IN, we hear Mz. Mole, just wrapping up 'circle time'.

MZ. MOLE (OS)

...and that's the ~~happy hubbub~~ end of ~~snack time~~ the lesson, kids. Which means, it's time for...

2. INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

The kids sit in a semi-circle on the floor, with MZ. MOLE.
<SFX: YAY, WHOO-HOO WALLA>

Her students get up and happily hurry to get their snacks from their bags. Mz. Mole turns to the chalk board, picks up an eraser, and starts cleaning it, <HUMMING> to herself.

ARI and ELINOR have their SNACK BAGS in hand as they settle into side-by-side ~~chairs~~ chairs at a TABLE, saving ~~one~~ a spot for Olive. Ari does a jazzy little wiggle as he opens his bag.

ARI

*Snack time, snack time... eeh, I
got raisins! loooove snack time!
Let's see what I got... I got...*

~~ELINOR~~ He pulls out CARROT STICKS. He looks mildly disappointed.

~~I~~ ARI (CONT'D)

Hm. Carrot sticks.

ELINOR (EXCITED)

*Ari, you got carrot sticks! I LOVE
carrot sticks, they're my favorite!
Let's see what I got...*

Elinor pulls out a BAG OF RAISINS. She looks ~~OFF towards the~~ ~~classroom area~~ mildly disappointed.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Hm. Raisins.

ARI

*Elinor, you got raisins! That's
awesome, raisins are MY favorite!*

They both look at their respective snacks, not too excited. Suddenly, they both realize the obvious solution, and grin.

ELINOR/ARI (UNISON)
Wanna share?

The kids happily take a bit of each other's snack to enjoy.

Elinor looks OFF towards the cloakroom area.

ELINOR
Olive? Did you find your snack?

CLOAKROOM AREA - Olive is still digging deep in her bag. She takes out SEVERAL HARDCOVER BOOKS, a JUMBO BOX OF CRAYONS...

OLIVE
It's in here somewhere... aha!
Found it.

Olive finally pulls out a rather crumpled SMALL BROWN BAG and heads back to join them. On the way, she passes ~~an oversized-~~ a big WALL CALENDAR, with pictograms on special days. She double-takes.

ZOOM IN on a BIRTHDAY CAKE pictogram, with ~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole's face.

Olive brightens! She hurries to join her friends.

OLIVE (LOW, URGENT) (CONT'D)
Elinor! Ari! Did you notice? It's
~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole's birthday tomorrow!

ARI
Teachers have birthdays?

ELINOR (CHUCKLING)
Of course they do. Let's do something nice for her!

OLIVE
We could make her a picture?

CUT TO ~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole, who is busy ~~cleaning-erasing~~ the chalkboard, beside a whole wall-full of KID-DRAWN PICTURES of herself-. She has raised a little chalk dust cloud, which makes her sneeze. <SFX: SNEEZE>

ARI (CALLS)
~~Enh~~Bless you!
(quieter, ~~she~~-to the girls)
She already has a lot of pictures.

ELINOR
How about a craft?

CUT TO: the teacher's desk, groaning under a collection of CRAFTS. (PENCIL CUPS, WALNUTS WITH GOOGLY EYES, etc.)

OLIVE (PART OS)
 She has a lot of those, too. (beat)
 I know! I'll bring her a cupcake
 tomorrow! ~~Mom~~ My mom made a whole
 batch for her book club. *In fact...*
(trunk trumpet, 'ta-da!')
 I got one for a snack!

With great ceremony, Olive reaches into her snack bag and pulls out - a ~~SLIGHTLY~~-TOTALLY SQUASHED CUPCAKE. Her face falls.

OLIVE (DISAPPOINTED) (CONT'D)
 Aw! It squished. ~~How'd~~ I wonder how
 that ~~happen~~ happened?

~~ELINOR~~-ELINOR (EMPATHIZES)
 It must have gotten squished inside
 your bag.

ARI (GENTLY)
 You do carry a lot of stuff ~~in your~~
 with you, Olive.
 SWISH PAN to Olive's bag, which is
 indeed straining to contain all the
 heavy books and things crammed
 inside. WIDEN to include Olive
 holding the squished cupcake in her
 hand.

OLIVE (NODS)
 Oh. Yeah.

MRS MZ. ~~MOLE~~-MOLE (OS)
 Is everything all right, kids?

CUT TO Mrs MZ. Mole as she turns from the chalk-board, her glasses ~~coated~~-covered in ~~chalk~~-dust. ~~As she pauses to clean them~~ She wipes her glasses while still wearing them. By the time they're clear again -

- Olive, ~~Elinor~~, Elinor and Ari ~~zip~~ have zipped into an awkward ~~tableau~~, tableau to block her view of the cupcake on the table.

OLIVE / ELINOR / ~~ARI~~ARI
 Yes! / Fine! / ~~Nuthin' to~~
~~see~~ There's no cupcake!

~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole squints at them for a moment, shrugs good-naturedly then ~~nods and~~ goes back to what she was doing. ~~The kids look.~~

ARI (relieved.)

~~ARI (CONT'D)~~

Phew! ~~She didn't see it~~ Good thing I played it cool. I'd hate to spoil the surprise.

Olive and Elinor share a look. *That was playing it cool?*

OLIVE (WORRIED)

~~And Well,~~ I'd hate to spoil ~~her the~~ cupcake tomorrow. What if it goes 'squish' inside my bag like this one?

ELINOR

Don't worry, Olive. We'll just have to find a way to stop the squish!

Off her expression of deep thought, we DISSOLVE TO:

23. EXT. TOWN - DAY

After school, Elinor, Ari and Olive walk home together, brainstorming a solution to their cupcake conundrum. *(Olive carries her very full bag.)*

ELINOR

Maybe you could carry the cupcake on a plate, *so it doesn't squish?*

OLIVE

I could... but what if I trip?

THOUGHT BUBBLE - Olive imagines herself carrying a plate with a cupcake on it, as she hikes down a path full of exaggerated obstacles. Rocks, tree roots, banana peels...

OLIVE (CONT'D)

Whoa... whoa... OOF!

Olive slips on a banana peel, and falls forward. <SQUISH!>

BACK TO SCENE. Ari nods, agreeing.

ARI

That would squish it all right. What if I fly it to school?

THOUGHT BUBBLE - Ari imagines himself holding the cupcake as he flies. But since Ari's paw is connected to his wing, the cupcake goes up and down as he flies. Up, down, up, down, UP -

ARI (CONT'D)

WHOA!

- he loses his grip, and the cupcake arcs through the air!

IN THE SCHOOLYARD - It lands on ~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole's head. <SPLAT!>

BACK TO SCENE. Elinor cringes, just thinking about it.

ELINOR

That might ~~be risky~~ squish the
cupcake too...-

By now, they're passing a PARK. Suddenly, a ~~volleyball~~ big
soft playground ball comes bouncing across their path.

ROLLIE (OS)

Heads up!

The ball misses them, but it does bounce over and <BONK> -

- A TURTLE, who was creeping along at the side of the path. He quickly pulls his head and limbs inside his shell.

ELINOR (DISMAYED)

Oh, no! ~~Is it hurt?~~ Poor turtle!

Elinor rushes over, with Ari and Olive close behind. ~~But she's surprised to see~~ At the same time, ROLLIE (an ARMADILLO) enters.

ROLLIE

Sorry about that! Is the turtle ~~peek~~ okay?

ANGLE ON the turtle - who slowly peeks his head ~~out--then~~ out. Then his legs pop ~~out-out~~, and he ~~resumes his leisurely stroll~~ looks up at the kids, seemingly unfazed.

ARI

(Phew.) Yeah, he's okay.

OLIVE

~~No.~~ (chuckle) He hardly even noticed!

~~Elinor is surprised--and very curious.~~

ELINOR

~~That's SOO interesting! How did the~~
The turtle protect itself?

~~Cautiously, she reaches out and <RAPS> on his shell.~~

ELINOR (CONT'D)

~~His shell resumes its leisurely~~
walk. Rollie is really-
~~hard~~relieved.

~~Ari and Olive gently <TAP> on it with their knuckles too.~~

ARI

~~Yeah. Reminds me of my bike-~~
helmetHe's a tough little guy.

ELINOR (THOUGHTFUL)

~~Maybe his shell works the same way-~~
as a helmet? You knowON Elinor, to-
~~keep him safer~~relieved but also very
curious.

~~Just then, ROLLIE (an ARMADILLO) enters looking for ELINOR~~

The ball just bounced off his ballshell.

ROLLIE

~~Sorry about that!~~

~~He~~Meanwhile, Rollie retrieves it-his ball from the bushes.

ROLLIE (CONT'D)OLIVE

~~My sister was trying to hit me with-~~
the ball, but she missed.

ELINOR (SURPRISED)

~~Hit~~What are you with itplaying,
Rollie?

~~Ari points at the ball.~~

ARI

~~Well, don't give it back to her!~~

ROLLIE (GRINSCASUALLY)

~~(laugh) It's okayOh, we're playing-~~
dodgeball. It's part of my sister
and I are just bumping the game-
ball back and forth.

Rollie tosses the ball in the air and playfully bounces-
<BOUNCES> it off the shell on his chest—it flies off-
screenupper back.

~~ELINORE~~ELINOR (SURPRISED)
~~But doesn't~~Doesn't that hurt?

ROLLIE
 Nah. ~~I~~We armadillos have ~~armour.~~
~~See?~~a protective shell, see?

He <TAPS> on his own armour plates.

ROLLIE (CONT'D)
 Nice and hard! ~~(shrugs)~~It's an
~~armadillo thing.~~

~~ROLLIE'S SISTER~~(OSAnyway, DISTANT)
~~Rollie!~~C'monI gotta roll. See you
 later!

Rollie ~~looks OS,~~ then waves to Elinor, Ari and Olive.

ROLLIE
~~Gotta roll. See you later!~~

~~Rollie,~~ then heads OS to rejoin the game.

Elinor and her friends continue walking.

OLIVE
 Wow. ~~His armour protects him~~That's
 so cool.

ARI
~~Like~~It's like he has a helmet. ~~Or~~
~~a turtle shell~~helmet for his WHOLE
 BODY!

Elinor glances back at the turtle, and absorbs this ~~new~~
 information.

ELINOR
~~I wonder if anything else in nature~~
~~is like that?~~
 (excited)
~~We need more observations!~~

~~As Elinor rallies her friends OS, we launch into...~~

~~3. EXT. TOWN — SONG MOMENT — "A SHELL"~~

~~We FOLLOW Elinor, Ari and Olive as they pass through town on~~
~~their way home, encountering a few other creatures with~~
~~'tough outsides'.~~

~~ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE (SING)~~
~~A shell, a shell~~
~~Protected by a shell~~
~~A shell is such a clever way~~
~~To keep you safe and well~~

~~Just then, Elinor sees—~~

~~—A JUNE BUG in flight! Suddenly, it bumps into the side of a building and loses altitude—~~

~~ELINOR (SINGS)~~
~~There's a beetle, look how small!~~

~~OLIVE (SINGS)~~
~~Oops—it bumped into a wall!~~

~~—but the bug quickly recovers and they watch it fly away.~~

~~ELINOR (SINGS)~~
~~But that's okay, 'cause after all,~~
~~A beetle has a shell~~

~~They walk onward, singing—~~

~~ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE (SING)~~
~~A shell, a shell~~
~~Protected by a shell~~
~~A shell is such a clever way~~
~~To keep you safe and well~~

~~Ari points to a SNAIL, climbing up a sturdy plant stalk. A bird hops closer~~~~Hmm...~~

~~ARI (PART OS; SINGS)~~
~~You see that snail? I have a hunch~~
~~A bird would like him for her lunch~~

~~...but when the bird tries to snap up the snail, its beak glances off the hard shell. The bird gives up and moves on.~~

~~ELINOR (SINGS)~~
~~But shells are much too hard to~~
~~crunch~~
~~That's why it has a shell!~~

~~The three friends skip onward through town, singing—~~

~~ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI (SING)~~
~~A shell, a shell~~
~~Protected by a shell~~
~~A shell is such a clever way~~
~~To keep you safe and well~~

~~The SONG ENDS, and the kids scamper OS!~~

CUT TO:

4. EXT. MRS. GORILLA'S JUICE CART - MOMENTS LATER

As the kids continue home, Ari wipes his brow.

ARI

(Whew!) ~~I'm~~ Speaking of 'whole
body', my whole body is thirsty.

MRS. GORILLA (PART OS)

Well you came to the right place!

REVERSE ANGLE - they're approaching a JUICE STAND run by an effusive MRS. GORILLA. The stand is decorated and stocked with BANANAS, COCONUTS and ORANGES.

MRS. GORILLA (CONT'D)

Would you like a free sample of
coconut water?

Smiling brightly, she holds up a coconut in one hand.

ELINOR

Yes, please! Thanks, Mrs. Gorilla.

OLIVE

~~Can~~ Ooh, can I squeeze out the
juice? I ~~love making orange juice~~
~~at home.~~ do it all the time with
oranges.

Olive drops her heavy bag, and picks up a coconut that's
sitting out on the stand. Mrs. Gorilla ~~is~~ looks a bit ~~taken-~~
~~aback~~ surprised.

MRS. GORILLA

Oh! But - coconuts are a bit
different than oranges...

But Olive is already squeezing ~~a~~-the hard-shelled coconut
over a cup as hard as she can, with her hands, then her
trunk.

OLIVE

(strain) Wow. The outside of this
coconut is hard!

ARI (CONFIDENT)

I think you have to peel it first.
Like this!

Ari takes the coconut, and pries at it - with no luck.

ARI (CONT'D)
(strains) How're you supposed to
get into this thing?!

Mrs. Gorilla smiles.

MRS. GORILLA
You have to ~~break~~ get through the
shell. I'll show you!

She takes the coconut back, and ~~punctures~~ pokes a hole on the
hard shell ~~twice~~ with an MALLET and an AWL, then pours out
the coconut water into three small CUPS.

ELINOR
So *that's* how you get ~~the~~ coconut
water out.

OLIVE
It's delicious!

ARI
Yeah!

While Olive and Ari talk to Mrs. Gorilla, Elinor curiously
examines the coconut shell.

MRS. GORILLA
And ~~there's more good stuff-~~
~~inside~~ what brings you to the park
today, kids?

OLIVE
Well, Mrs. ~~Stand back~~ Gorilla, we're
trying to figure out how to stop
the squish!

~~With~~ MRS. GORILLA
The squish?

Elinor shakes the coconut - there's still a ~~big KNIFE,~~ little
<THUNK!SWISH> ~~she splits the coconut neatly in two, revealing~~
~~the hollow space of~~ liquid inside. ~~Then~~ She <TAPS> on it, ~~with~~
feeling the hard shell.

ARI

Olive wants to bring a ~~SPOON~~ cupcake tomorrow for Mz. Mole's
birthday, but everything Olive puts in her bag gets squished!

CUT TO Olive, as she ~~scrapes up some coconut 'meat' for them~~ gestures to ~~try~~her bag. The square outline of books can be seen through the fabric - it's STUFFED.

~~OLIVE~~ OLIVE

(~~NIBBLING~~shrugs, a bit sheepish)

~~Mm~~I like to carry a lot of things.

MRS. ~~Thank you~~GORILLA

I see! ~~The inside is softer than the outside~~That IS a hard problem.
Or... a soft and squishy problem?

Just then, Elinor has a realization.

ELINOR

~~Hey, I just realized.~~ That is SO INTERESTING! It isn't just ~~turtles,~~ ~~beetles~~-turtles and ~~snails~~-armadillos that have shells to protect their insides. ~~Some plants~~-~~do~~-Coconuts have them too!

ARI

Huh! That IS pretty cool.

~~ANGLE~~-MRS. GORILLA

That's right, Elinor! Lots of things in Nature have shells to protect them. Let's take a look around, and see!

ELINOR

Yeah! We need MORE OBSERVATIONS!

As Elinor and her friends rally around Mrs. Gorilla we hear the beginning of a song...

5. EXT. TOWN - SONG MOMENT - "A SHELL"

We FOLLOW Mrs. Gorilla, Elinor, Ari and Olive as they step away from the stand and pass through town, encountering a few other creatures with 'tough outsides'.

ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI

(sing)

*ALL: A shell, a shell
Protected by a shell
A shell is such a clever way
To keep you safe and well*

Just then, Elinor sees -

- A JUNE BUG in flight! Suddenly, it bumps into the side of a building and loses altitude -

*ELINOR- There's a beetle,
ARI -Look how small!
OLIVE - Oops - it bumped into a
wall!*

- but the bug quickly recovers and they watch it fly away.

*ELINOR -But see? It didn't hurt at
all,
It has a kind of shell*

They walk onward, singing -

*ALL: A shell, a shell
Protected by a shell
A shell is such a clever way
To keep you safe and well*

Ari points to a SNAIL, climbing up a sturdy plant stalk. A bird hops closer...

*ARI: You see that snail? I have a
hunch
A bird would like him for her lunch*

...but when the bird tries to snap up the snail, its beak glances off the hard shell. The bird gives up and moves on.

*OLIVE: But shells are much too hard
to crunch
ELINOR: That's why it has a shell!*

The three friends and Mrs. Gorilla skip onward through town and back to the fruit stand, singing -

*ALL: A shell, a shell
Protected by a shell
A shell is such a clever way
To keep you safe and well*

The SONG ENDS. By now, Mrs. Gorilla and the kids have circled back to their original positions at the fruit stand.

*OLIVE
Wow, Mrs. Gorilla, I never knew so
many things in Nature had hard
outsides to protect their insides!*

MRS. GORILLA
Oh yes, Olive. Shells are very good protection.

ON Elinor, ~~having~~ as she picks up a coconut and has a brainstorm.

ELINOR
And I just got an idea for how to protect ~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole's cupcake.

~~Elinor turns to Mrs. Gorilla.~~

~~ELINOR (CONT'D)
Mrs. Gorilla, do you mind if we keep this coconut shell?~~

~~MRS. GORILLA
Be my guest!~~

Off Elinor's excited look, we ~~DISSOLVE-TRANSITION~~ TO:

~~56. EXTEXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE / INT. OLIVE'S KITCHEN~~

~~ESTABLISH Olive's house. A short time later.~~

~~ARI-ANIMAL TOWN - ESTABLISHING (PART-
OS; MOUTH FULLTIME TRANSITION)
Mm. Delishush. Mrs. Mole's going to love her birthday cupeake.~~

~~INSIDE—AriA HIGH, Elinor and Olive sit at the kitchen table. Ari and Elinor are sharing a cupeake. Two more PINK-FROSTED CUPCAKES remain on a plate in the middle WIDE SHOT of the table.~~

~~OLIVE
IF I can get one to school without squashing it. So what's your ideaAnimal Town, Elinor?~~

~~ON Elinor. She holds as the two coconut halves.~~

~~ELINOR
Wellsun sets, we know that shells can stop things from getting squashed...~~

~~ARI / OLIVE (NODDING)
Yes? / So?~~

ELINOR

~~So, this coconut shell is just the right size DAY fades to hold a cupcake!~~

~~Elinor places one cupcake inside the half shell NIGHT, and fits then the other half on top, like a lid.~~

ELINOR (CONT'D)

~~Ta-da! One cupcake carrier.~~

~~She lifts the lid off sun rises and DAY BREAKS again. The swirl start of icing is intact!~~

ARI

~~AMAZING! But how's the lid going to stay on?~~

OLIVE

~~Hang on -- I might have something another school day...~~

~~Olive grabs her schoolbag and digs around inside it. Ari shares a grin with Elinor.~~

ARI

~~...in your bag? Of course you do.~~

OLIVE

~~Elastic bands!~~

~~Olive has found TWO ELASTIC BANDS. She puts these around the (closed) coconut, which holds the halves together nicely.~~

ELINOR

~~That might work! Can I see?~~

~~Olive hands the coconut to Ari, to pass to Elinor -- but Ari's hands are still slippery with frosting, and he fumbles it!~~

ARI

~~Ahh!~~

~~It drops onto the table and <ROLLS SFX: SCHOOL YARD WALLA> over to Elinor, who catches it in surprise.~~

ARI (GUILT-STRICKEN) (CONT'D)

~~Sorry! Frosting fingers7.~~

~~He wiggles his pink-frosted fingers. Olive ruefully hands him a WET WIPE from her bottomless satchel.~~

~~Elinor opens the coconut to reveal that the cupcake is an upside-down sticky mess. She frowns.~~

~~ELINOR~~

~~The lid stayed on all right, but
the cupcake bounced around inside.~~

~~Ari grabs a spoon, ready to make the best of it.~~

~~ARI~~

~~Well, let's take care of that mess!~~

~~He lifts the mangled cupcake onto his plate. Just then—~~

~~ELINOR~~

~~Hey! Remember how Mrs. Gorilla
scraped out some coconut for us?~~

~~She points to the divot in the bottom of the shell.~~

~~ELINOR (CONT'D)~~

~~What if we carve out a little
circle that's just the right size
to hold the bottom of a cupcake?
Maybe then it won't bounce around!~~

~~OLIVE~~

~~Let's try it!~~

~~Elinor grabs a clean spoon and gets busy carving out a niche.~~

~~ARI~~

~~Do you think it'll work?~~

~~OLIVE~~

~~I sure hope so. There's only one
cupcake left!~~

~~As we PAN TO the last pretty cupcake left on the plate, we~~

~~DISSOLVE TO:~~

~~6.~~ EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

WIDE on the schoolyard, the next morning. ~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole supervises as her STUDENTS ~~arrive and greet each other~~trickle into the playground.

~~VARIOUS STUDENTS~~

MZ. MOLE (~~school yard walla~~CHEERY)
Hello, Rollie. Good morning, Sally.

CLOSER - Ari, Olive and Elinor ~~huddle~~are already there, ~~huddled~~ around ~~the elastic-closed coconut~~Olive's bag.

~~Elinor holds it while Ari presses his finger on a ribbon that Olive is tying into a BOW on top. They're wrapping something inside it...~~

OLIVE (LOW)

~~Hold it tight, Ari.~~ I've never gift-wrapped ~~a coconut~~ something like this before. Hold the ribbon tight, Ari!

~~ELINOR~~ELINOR (LOW)

~~You should give it to her~~Hurry, Olive~~here~~ comes Mz. ~~The cupcake was your idea.~~Mole!

~~OLIVE~~OLIVE (LOW)

Okay, ready?

ANOTHER ANGLE - as they all turn towards their teacher. Ari is holding their gift in his hands: a coconut, with a bow tied around it!

OLIVE / ELINOR / ARI (IN UNISON)

Happy birthday Mz. Mole!

Mz. Mole reacts with surprise and delight! But as Ari holds up the ~~coconut carrier was yours!~~gift a little higher...

ARI

~~You can both do it. Ready?~~
~~ANOTHER ANGLE~~We got you a birthday - ~~as they all turn towards their teacher.~~gift -

~~ARI / OLIVE / ELINOR (CHEER)~~

~~Happy birthday Mrs. Mole!~~

~~But as the girls turn, they accidentally swing Ari around too...~~he realizes that something is wrong. ~~because his~~His finger *accidentally* got tied into the bow!

~~ARI~~ARI

~~Whea!~~Huh? Hey!

Surprised, Ari yanks his hand around, with the coconut *still* tied on. He finally shakes it off - but accidentally throws the coconut+! The girls cringe -

OLIVE / ELINOR

Oh no! / ~~Look~~Watch out!

~~It--~~ as the coconut flies ~~in an are~~through the air towards the play structure!

It lands on the SLIDE, ~~right~~-(<WHUMP!>) rolls a little way up, then gravity takes over and it comes rolling back -

ARI
I can't look!

(Ari hides his eyes - then peeks anyway.)

The coconut bounces across the ground, finally rolling to ~~Mrs~~a stop at Mz. Mole ~~who catches~~ Mole's feet. She picks it ~~like an outfielder catching a pop fly~~.up, amused.

~~MRS~~MZ. MOLE (CHUCKLING)
My goodness! What do we have here?

Elinor, Olive and Ari come closer, sharing a worried look.

ELINOR (NERVOUS)
Uh. Better open it, and find out.

ANGLE ON ~~Mrs~~Mz. Mole, as she slowly and dramatically opens the ~~split-in-half~~ coconut ~~carrier~~ to reveal -

~~—~~MZ. MOLE
(gasp) Oh, it's beautiful!

CLOSE ON a ~~perfectly~~-PERFECTLY INTACT CUPCAKE!

MZ. MOLE (PART OS)

Thank you, kids! ~~The kids beam~~ What a clever idea to put it inside a coconut shell.

Olive grins.

OLIVE
We did it so it wouldn't get squished in my bag.

ELINOR
We noticed that lots of animals and plants have hard outsides to protect their insides. So we made a coconut shell into a cupcake carrier!

Mz. Mole tugs the cupcake out of a carved-out niche in the coconut 'meat'.

MZ. MOLE (IMPRESSED)
And there's even a snug little pocket to hold the cupcake!

ARI

Mrs. Gorilla scooped it out of the
inside of the coconut for us.

Elinor reaches into her own bag, with ~~relief~~a playful smile.

ELINOR (GRINNING)

That means you aren't the *only* one
with a special snack today, Mz.
Mole...

Elinor pulls out a clear container full of coconut meat.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

~~The shell worked! It didn't squish!~~

~~MRS. MOLE~~

~~Thank you, kids! Why that's the
nicest cupcake I've ever seen.~~

~~She tugs the cupcake from it's snug, carved out niche to
better admire the coconut itself.~~

~~MRS. MOLE (CONT'D)~~

~~And how in the world did you know
about my .we brought coconut shell-
collection?to share!~~

~~Elinor looks blank.~~

~~ELINOR-~~

~~Your what?~~

~~For a moment, Elinor looks in amazement at her friends - then
they all crack up laughing.~~

~~ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI~~

~~(laugh)~~

~~OTHER STUDENTS~~

~~(ad lib cheers and birthday wishes)-~~

As ~~they class laughs~~the other students <SFX: CLASSROOM LAUGH
AND CHEER>, ~~cheers and wishes their teacher a 'happy
birthday',~~we PULL BACK and..

FADE OUT.