

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 116 Mz. Mole's Glasses

By: Rachel Lipman

Elinor's Question: How can Mz. Mole get around without her glasses?

Logline: When Mz. Mole leaves her glasses behind at school, Elinor, Olive and Ari track her down to return them, and discover that Mz. Mole relies on other senses to get around.

Curriculum Goals:

SEP 6 - Constructing explanations a. Use background knowledge, experiences and data to construct reasonable explanations and theories of natural phenomena b. Look for and describe patterns and relationships in natural phenomena. c. Use and apply productive science discourse to support an explanation. d. Use evidence to support a theory or solution to a problem. (Using an evidence-based inquiry Elinor and her friends deduce that Mz. Mole is using her other senses (smell, touch, hearing) to get around when she leaves her glasses behind).

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. A. Identify body parts of animals and their function. (Elinor and her friends realize that Mz. Mole uses her ears for hearing, her hands for touching, her nose for smelling and her eyes for seeing).

Line count: 111

Main Characters: Elinor, Olive, Ari, Mz. Mole

Secondary Characters: Mr. Raccoon, Mrs. Gorilla

Incidental Characters: BG populating street, park

Backgrounds: Top of the hill, Inside the Clubhouse, bottom of the hill

Props: Olive's satchel, Mz. Mole's bag, Mz. Mole's glasses, Olive's notebook, three breads (rye, sourdough, banana), an apple, orange, banana, grapes, banana peel, rolling log.

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1	INT. SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY	1
	It's a clear day in the forest, and class-time has just ended at Elinor's school. Kids are exiting with their backpacks, waving to MZ. MOLE as they walk by. She waves back.	* *
1	MZ. MOLE Goodbye, kids! See you tomorrow!	1 *
	CU OLIVE'S SATCHEL as she puts her things away. PULL BACK - OLIVE is packing, with ELINOR and ARI standing by with their backpacks.	
2	ARI Today was the best day ever! We got to play hopscotch AND had milk for a snack!	2
3	ELINOR But Ari, we play hopscotch and have milk every day.	3
4	ARI And that's why every day is the best day ever, Elinor!	4
	Elinor <GIGGLES>.	
5	OLIVE Ok, I'm ready!	5
	The kids are the last to leave the classroom and stop to talk to Mz. Mole as she packs up <u>her</u> bag. Elinor looks on curiously.	
6	ELINOR What do you do after school is finished, Mz. Mole?	6
	Mz. Mole smiles as she closes her bag.	
7	MZ. MOLE Oh, I do lots of things, Elinor. Today, I'm doing some shopping.	7
8	ARI (pushing his hands out) Whoa! Wait a minute... you mean teachers go places besides school??	8
9	MZ. MOLE (amused) Sure. We teachers are just like everybody else, Ari.	9

Wow.

ARI

1010

11 OLIVE 11
What are you shopping for, Mz.
Mole?

Mz. Mole takes off her glasses, blows on them, and begins to clean them with a soft cloth.

12 MZ. MOLE 12

Well, Olive, first I'm going to get
some fresh bread from Mr. Raccoon's
bakery.

13 ARI 13

Oooh, I love fresh bread, it smells
soooo yummy.

14 ELINOR/OLIVE 14
I think we better go get Ari a
snack, Mz. Mole./Bye, see you
tomorrow! *

Mz. Mole gives her glasses another puff and wipes them.

15 MZ. MOLE 15
Goodbye, kids!

2 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY - CONTINUOUS 2

The kids exit school, heading towards the forest. After a few paces, we see Mz. Mole (from the back) in the background, closing the door and heading in the direction of town.

16 ARI 16
 (Still in amazement)
I didn't know teachers did things
outside of school. I thought they
lived IN the school!

17 ELINOR 17
 <GIGGLES> Ari, if Mz. Mole lived IN
 the school, where would she sleep?

18 ARI 18
You mean teachers SLEEP too??

Suddenly, Olive stops in her tracks, clutching her satchel. *

19 OLIVE 19
 <GASP!!>
 Wait, I forgot my notebook!

She slaps her pocket with her trunk. Frowns. No notebook. She suddenly claps her trunk to her head, remembering:

20 OLIVE (CONT'D) 20
I must have left it on my chair.

21 ELINOR 21
Let's go back and get it.

They head back to the school.

3 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY 3

As Elinor and Ari wait in the open doorway, Olive enters, and instantly finds her notebook on her chair.

22 OLIVE 22
(calling to others)
I found my notebook! *

23 ELINOR 23
Great! Good thing we came back. *

Just as Olive picks up her notebook and looks up, she sees something on Mz. Mole's desk across the room.

Olive's POV - CLOSE ON Mz. Mole's GLASSES on the desk.

24 OLIVE 24
(gasps)
Mz. Mole's glasses!

She picks them up carefully then runs to show Elinor and Ari.

25 OLIVE (CONT'D) 25
Mz. Mole left these on her desk!

26 ARI 26
Uh-oh.

27 ELINOR 27
She was cleaning them before. She must have forgotten to put them back on!

28 OLIVE 28
Do you think she needs them?

Ari makes eyeglasses with his fingers on his face.

29 ARI 29
My dad uses glasses. He says he can't see *anything* without them.

30 OLIVE 30
 Oh no, what if Mz. Mole needs them *
 to see? What should we do? *

31 ELINOR 31
 (After a beat)
 Let's find Mz. Mole and give her *
 back her glasses! *

32 ARI 32
 Yeah, good idea! But how do we find *
 her? *

33 OLIVE 33
 (remembering)
 She said she was going to the
 bakery first.

34 ELINOR 34
 Then let's go to the bakery! C'mon!

The kids run out the door.

CROSSFADE TO:

4 **EXT. ANIMAL TOWN SQUARE - DAY** 4

It's the center of Animal Town, (like a very small Main Street, with friendly adults and families walking around and no traffic). We hear typical <SFX: DOWNTOWN HUBBUB>, including a small <SFX: DING> as we see Mz. Mole exits the bakery waving the store owner goodbye.

35 MZ. MOLE 35
 (barely audible)
 Goodbye, Mr. Raccoon!

From the door, Mz. Mole walks off in one direction and the camera pans in the opposite direction, down the sidewalk and to the corner, where the three kids are just coming around.

36 ELINOR 36
 C'mon - we're almost there. *

As they head up the block, Ari picks up his nose and sniffs. Smell FX waves waft into his nostrils from the bakery. *

37 ARI 37
 (sniff, sniff)
 Mmmm... something sure smells good
 around here. *

5 **INT. MR. RACCOON'S BAKERY - DAY** 5

Elinor, Olive and Ari enter the bakery. MR. RACCOON, in white apron and hat, gives them a friendly greeting.

38 MR. RACCOON 38
Well, hello Elinor, Olive and Ari!
How can I help you?

39 ELINOR 39
Hi, Mr. Raccoon. *

40 ARI 40
It smells SO good here.

Olive <SFX: SNIFFS> the air with her trunk.

41 ELINOR 41
We're looking for Mz. Mole. Olive
found her glasses in the classroom,
and we want to give them back to
her.

42 MR. RACCOON 42
Ah, how nice of you. She was here a
minute ago! And I *did* notice she
wasn't wearing her glasses, but...
she had no trouble picking out a
nice loaf of pumpernickel bread. *

Elinor, Ari and Olive look surprised as they glance back to the shelves of different breads lining the wall behind the counter.

43 ELINOR 43
I wonder... how did Mz. Mole pick
out the pumpernickel bread without
her glasses?

Olive scratches her head with her trunk. Meanwhile, Ari runs over to the pumpernickel bread.

44 ARI 44
Here is the pumpernickel bread.
(smelling) Oohh, it smells so good.
(then, sniffing another loaf
nearby) Ooh, and here is sourdough,
mmm...

The sourdough is a long baguette, and the pumpernickel is *
dark brown and round. The rye bread is cigar-shaped and has *
visible caraway seeds as dark dots. *

45 ELINOR 45
 (lightbulb going off)
 That's it! She must have smelled
 the bread!

46 OLIVE 46
 (sniff, sniff with her
 trunk)
 I think you're right!

Mr. Raccoon smiles, gestures to indicate all the breads.

47 MR. RACCOON 47
 (proudly)
 Well, I do bake the best-smelling
 breads in town. Of course, I'm also *
 the only baker in town... *
 (beat) *
 And all my breads smell different. *
 Close your eyes and try to smell *
 which is which.

Standing in front of the entire array of breads at the wall, *
Ari closes his eyes and concentrates, sniffing:

48 ARI 48
 (sniff sniff over to one
 of the loafs)
 I smell... rye bread.

Elinor closes her eyes and twitches her nose.

49 ELINOR 49
 (sniff over to another
 loaf)
 I think I smell sourdough.

Olive closes her eyes and sniffs with her trunk in the air.

50 OLIVE 50
 (biiig sniff)
 YUUUUM!! That's definitely banana
 bread! My favorite!

They open their eyes to see Mr. Raccoon putting some bread
samples on a tray.

51 MR. RACCOON 51
 You're each right - here are some
 samples to try.

Mr. Raccoon hands them bread slices. As they chew happily:

52 OLIVE 52
Mm, yummy. Thanks Mr. Raccoon!

53 ELINOR 53
(to Mr. Raccoon)
Wait, we still need to find Mz.
Mole. Did she say where she was
going? *

54 MR. RACCOON 54
Why yes. She said she was going to
the fruit stand near the park.
Maybe you can find her there.

As the kids rush out the door:

55 ELINOR 55
Thanks, Mr. Raccoon!

6 **EXT. OUTSIDE THE PARK - DAY- MEANWHILE** 6

Mz. Mole walks along the park periphery with her bag and a
loaf of bread in it.

56 MZ. MOLE 56
(whistling to herself)
Hmm... And now to get some fruit!

She makes her way, happy and confident, and we see her
walking towards a fruit stand ahead of her.

7 **EXT. OUTSIDE PARK - DAY- A LITTLE LATER** 7

Elinor, Olive and Ari are walking near the park.

57 ARI 57
(munching on his piece of
bread)
Mr. Raccoon is the best!

58 ELINOR 58
I guess Mz. Mole didn't need her
glasses to pick out the bread.

59 OLIVE 59
(sniffing her piece with
her trunk)
She just used her nose!

60 ELINOR 60
There's Mrs. Gorilla's fruit stand!

The kids run up to the fruit stand, where friendly MRS. GORILLA waits at the register.

61 ELINOR (CONT'D) 61
 Hi, Mrs. Gorilla!

62 MRS. GORILLA 62
 Hello, kids! Ooh, is that bread
 that you're eating? Smells good!
 What can I help you with today?

63 ELINOR 63
 We're looking for our teacher, Mz.
 Mole.

64 MRS. GORILLA 64
 Oh, you kids *just* missed her. She
 was here a minute ago!

The kids exchange glances.

65 ELINOR 65
 Aw. We found her glasses and we're
 trying to return them to her.

66 MRS. GORILLA 66
 Oh, how nice of you. I did notice
 she wasn't wearing her glasses, but
 she had no trouble picking out the
 fruits she wanted. She got three
 apples, two oranges and some
 grapes.

*

Ari leans over and sniffs the fruit, then turns to Olive and Elinor.

*

67 ARI 67
 The fruits don't really smell that
 much. How did Mz. Mole know which
 fruit to pick? There are so many
 different kinds.

*

*

*

*

Elinor picks up an apple and holds it.

*

68 ELINOR 68
 Ooh, feel how smooth this apple is.

Olive picks up an orange.

69 OLIVE 69
 And feel this orange - it's got
 little bumps!

Ari picks up a bunch of grapes.

70	ARI	70
	And these grapes are small and round.	
	(he gently squeezes one)	*
	And a little squishy.	*
71	OLIVE	71
	The fruits all <u>feel</u> different.	
72	ELINOR	72
	That's it! Mz. Mole must have used her hands to FEEL which fruit was which!	
73	MRS. GORILLA	73
	That's right, Elinor. Fruit can be different sizes - bigger and smaller - and also have different <u>textures</u> - that means they feel bumpy, like the oranges do or smooth like the apples when you hold them in your hand.	*
	She holds out a tray of cut up apples.	*
74	MRS. GORILLA (CONT'D)	74 *
	Would you like to try some apple slices before you go?	*
	They all help themselves.	*
75	ELINOR	75
	Thanks for the fruit, Mrs. Gorilla! Do you know where Mz. Mole was going next?	
76	MRS. GORILLA	76
	Hmm, she said she was heading to the park.	*
77	OLIVE	77
	She has bread and fruit... Maybe she's going to have a picnic!	
78	ELINOR	78
	Let's go and find her!	

CUT TO:

8 EXT. PARK - DAY - MEANWHILE 8

It's a mildly busy day at the park, and there are a few families and kids playing. In one corner, we see Mz.

Mole as she sets down her bag near a big tree with <SFX: SINGING BIRDS>. She lays out her blanket and picnic food items. <WHISTLING TO HERSELF> she starts to take out the bread and some fruit.

In the background, behind her and behind the tree, we see the three kids walking into the park.

79	ELINOR	79
	Now where is Mz. Mole..?	*
	Ari hangs back and gestures ahead of him at the path.	*
80	ARI	80 *
	I'll look around here. Do you want	*
	to look for her up that path?	*
81	OLIVE	81 *
	Sure!	*
	Elinor and Olive move on as Ari looks around. After a beat,	*
	Ari looks up, sees Elinor and Olive up ahead and calls out:	*
82	ARI	82
	(shouting)	*
	Hey, Elinor! Olive! HEY, OLIVE!!!	*
	Olive turns her head, and Ari waves. She waves back, but	*
	can't hear him.	*
83	ARI (CONT'D)	83
	(calling)	
	I DON'T SEE MZ. MOLE. DO YOU SEE	*
	HER ANYWHERE THAT WAY?	*
	Elinor and Olive look over at him, mime "can't hear you."	*
84	ELINOR	84 *
	(shouting)	*
	WHAT?	*
85	ARI	85
	I SAID, HAVE YOU SEEN MZ. MOLE??	
	Suddenly, Mz. Mole pops up behind a trash can halfway between	*
	where Ari and Elinor/Olive are standing.	*
86	MZ. MOLE	86
	Boo! Is somebody looking for me?	
87	ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI	87
	(surprised laugh)	

88 OLIVE 88
Mz. Mole! We've been looking all
over for you! How did you find us?

89 MZ. MOLE 89
(laughs)
Oh, it was easy. I could hear you!
We Moles have great hearing,
especially for loud things, like
little bats.

She glances affectionately at Ari.

90 ARI 90
Like me!

91 OLIVE 91
You left your glasses in the
classroom, Mz. Mole, so we wanted
to bring them to you!

92 MZ. MOLE 92
Why, thank you! That's very kind of
you to track me all the way to the
park!

Olive hands her the glasses. Mz. Mole wipes them and puts
them on.

MZ. MOLE'S POV - things are still a bit fuzzy - not perfect.

93 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 93
Ah, that's a bit better!

94 OLIVE 94
Can you see really well now, Mz.
Mole?

95 MZ. MOLE 95
No, my glasses help me see better,
but not perfectly. And that's okay.
Do you know why?

96 ARI 96
Why?

97 MZ. MOLE 97
Moles like me don't need strong
eyes. We live in dark tunnels, so
we also use our noses, and our
ears, and our paws to get around.

*

98 ELINOR 98
Ooh - now we know! You used your
nose to pick out the loaf of
bread, and you used your hands to
tell the fruit apart! *

99 OLIVE 99
And you used your ears to find us
in the park!

100 MZ. MOLE 100
Very good! I'm glad you understand.

Mz. Mole sings a ditty, over which we see clips of her
getting around and doing her errands - using her nose in the *
bakery, using her hands to pick the fruit she wants and her *
ears to find the kids in the park. *

101 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 101
(singing)

*We use our eyes to see, **
*But we have other senses too-- **
*Smell and touch and sound, **
*All help us get around. **

*We have a nose to smell, **
*so we can tell, **
*If we're sniffing bread **
*Or a taco shell. **

*Bumpy, smooth or soft? **
*Touch tells us how things feel, **
*We can tell which fruit is which, **
*and find a yummy meal. **

*We listen with our ears, **
*there are many sounds to hear, **
*We can tell if our friends' voices, **
*are far away or near! **

*In this great big world, **
*There is more than meets the eye, **
*Smell and touch and sound, **
*All help us get around. **

BACK TO SCENE. The kids and Mz. Mole are now back at her *
picnic blanket.

102 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 102
And now let's have a picnic!

The kids help Mz. Mole set the food items out. *

103	ARI	103
	Oooh, I loove a picnic. "Taste" is my favorite sense to use!	

While Mz. Mole has her back turned towards the bag, Ari sits
and reaches for some of the fruit in the bag. *

104 MZ. MOLE 104

Ah-ah, Ari! Let's wait for everyone
to sit down first.

105 ARI 105
 (reacting to being caught)
Eep!

106	ELINOR	106 *
	Wait, Mz. Mole - how did you know	*
	Ari was reaching for the fruit?	*

107 OLIVE 107 *
Did you see, smell or hear Ari? *

108	MZ. MOLE	108 *
	Oh, I don't need my eyes, nose or	*
	ears to know that Ari is always	
	hungry! I just use my <u>head</u> !	*

Mz. Mole taps her temple. They all <SFX: ELINOR, OLIVE, ARI,
Mz. MOLE LAUGH> as they begin the picnic.

IRIS OUT: *

*