

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 116 Ms. Mole's Glasses

By: Rachel Lipman

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

Logline: When Ms. Mole leaves her glasses behind at school, Elinor, Olive and Ari track her down to return them, and discover that Ms. 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.

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.

ND- None in this one.

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

Secondary Characters: Mr. Raccoon, Ms. Gorilla

Incidental Characters: BG populating street, park

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

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

OUTLINE: 21 January 2019
FIRST DRAFT: 05 February 2019
SECOND DRAFT:

9 ELINOR 9
Ms. Mole goes places after school?

10 ARI 10
That's something we didn't know!

11 OLIVE 11
You're right, Ari. I'd better write
that down in my notebook.

She slaps her pocket with her trunk. Frowns. No notebook.

12 OLIVE (CONT'D) 12
Has anyone seen my notebook? Uh oh--

She suddenly claps her trunk to her head, remembering:

13 OLIVE (CONT'D) 13
I must have left it on my desk.

14 ELINOR 14
We'd better 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.

15	OLIVE	15
	(calling to others)	
	Here's my notebook!	

16 ELINOR 16
Great! Let's go!

Olive walks to the door, hugging her notebook to her chest.

17 OLIVE 17

<Phew!> Now, I feel better. What
if we saw something interesting and
I didn't have my note...

As she walks past Ms. Mole's desk, Olive does a double-take.

18 OLIVE (CONT'D) 18
(gasps)
Uh-oh, Ms. Mole glasses!

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

19	OLIVE (CONT'D)	19
	Ms. Mole left her glasses on her desk!	
20	ARI	20
	How did that happen? She wears them all the time.	
21	ELINOR	21
	But...she took them off to clean them - remember?	
22	OLIVE	22
	Right. She must have forgotten to put them back on.	
23	ARI	23
	What should we do?	
24	ELINOR	24
	Give them back tomorrow?	
25	OLIVE	25
	But Ms. Mole NEEDS her glasses!	
26	ELINOR	26
	You're right, Olive, we'd better give them back to her right away. Come on!	
4	EXT. ANIMAL TOWN SIDE STREET - DAY	4
	Elinor, Olive and Ari are walking down a small side street towards town.	
27	OLIVE	27
	So all we have to do is find Ms. Mole. (she looks around) Wherever she is.	
	They look both ways down the sidewalk, not seeing her.	
28	ELINOR	28
	Wait! She said she was going to the bakery!	
29	ARI	29
	Right! Let's go!	

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

5

The kids approach the center of Animal Town, (like a very small Main Street, with friendly adults and families walking around and no traffic.)

30 OLIVE 30
 I don't remember exactly where the
 bakery is.

As they keep walking, Ari picks up his nose and sniffs.
<DESIGN NOTE: Do we want animated "smell waves"?>

31 ARI 31
 Me either, but...
 (sniff, sniff)
 ...something sure smells good
 around here!

Olive lifts her trunk and sniffs

32 OLIVE 32
 (sniff, sniff)
 Smells like bread to me!

Elinor lifts up her nose and sniffs:

33 ELINOR 33
 And it's coming from that way!

She points and they all head down the block.

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

6

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

34 MR. RACCOON 34
 Hello Elinor, Olive and Ari! Can I
 help you find anything special
 today?

35 ELINOR 35
 Yes! Ms. Mole!

36 ARI 36
 She's VERY special.

37 OLIVE 37
 Is she here?

38 MR. RACCOON 38
Not now, but she was here a little
while ago. Why are you looking for
her?

39 ELINOR 39
Olive found her glasses in the
classroom, and we want to give them
back to her so she can see better.

40 MR. RACCOON 40
How nice. I noticed Ms. Mole wasn't
wearing her glasses, but she had no
trouble picking out a nice loaf of
pumpnickel bread.

The kids eye the various baskets of different breads.

41 ARI 41
Did you tell her what kinds of
breads you had and where they were?

42 MR. RACCOON 42
Nope. She knew exactly where it was
and didn't need to ask me.

Elinor, Ari and Olive look surprised as they glance from
where they're standing in front of the counter back to the
shelves of bread lining the wall behind it.

43 ELINOR 43
I wonder... how did Ms. Mole pick
out pumpnickel bread without her
glasses?

Olive lifts up her trunk again.

44 OLIVE 44
Maybe she...
(sniff, sniff)
Smelled it?

45 ARI 45
(biiig inhale)
It sure does smell good in here.

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

46 MR. RACCOON 46
(proudly)
Some say I make the best-smelling
breads in town.
(beat)
(MORE)

MR. RACCOON (CONT'D)
Which is definitely true since I'm
the only baker in town!

47 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 47
(laugh)

48 MR. RACCOON 48
And all my different breads smell
different.

49 ELINOR 49
Really? Let's close our eyes and
see if we can smell the difference.

Ari closes his eyes and concentrates, sniffing:

50 ARI 50
(sniff sniff)
I smell... rye bread.

Elinor closes her eyes and twitches her nose.

51 ELINOR 51
(sniff)
I think I smell sourdough.

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

52 OLIVE 52
(biiig sniff)
YUUUUM!! That's definitely banana
bread! My favorite!

They open their eyes to see Mr. Raccoon slicing bread.

53 MR. RACCOON 53
You're all right - here's a sample
of each kind!

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

54 OLIVE 54
Mm, yummy. Thanks Mr. Raccoon.

55 ELINOR 55
(to Mr. Raccoon)
We still need to find Ms. Mole. Did
she say where she was going next?

56 MR. RACCOON 56
She said she was stopping at the
fruit stand near the park. Maybe
you can find her there.

The kids rush out the door.

ARI
Thanks again, Mr. Raccoon!

7 EXT. OUTSIDE THE PARK - DAY- MEANWHILE 7

Ms. Mole walks along the park periphery carrying a picnic basket.

58 MS. MOLE 58
(whistling to herself)
Hmm... where's the perfect spot in
the park for a picnic?

She makes her way into the park, happy and confident.

8 EXT. FRUIT STAND OUTSIDE PARK - DAY- MEANWHILE 8

Elinor, Olive and Ari are approaching the fruit stand near the park.

59 ARI 59

So, Ms. Mole didn't even need her glasses to find the bread she wanted.

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60              OLIVE
She used her super-smelling power!
60

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61 ELINOR 61
That's so interesting! We need more
observations!

The kids approach the fruit stand, where friendly MS. GORILLA waits at the register.

62 ELINOR (CONT'D) 62
Hi, Ms. Gorilla.

63 MS. GORILLA 63
Hello, kids, what can I help you
with today? Kiwi, oranges,
pineapple? We've got it all.

64 ELINOR 64
We're looking for our teacher, Ms.
Mole.

65 OLIVE 65
 (hopeful)
 And some bananas?

66 MS. GORILLA 66
Of course! First, the bananas.

She shows them a beautifully laid-out tray of bananas. Olive is delighted, and selects one.

67 OLIVE 67
Thank you!

68 ARI 68
And Ms. Mole?

69 MS. GORILLA 69
You kids just missed her. She came in and bought three apples, two oranges and one cluster of grapes. She knew JUST what she wanted.

The kids exchange impressed glances.

70 ELINOR 70
Hmmm. I wonder how she found exactly the fruit she wanted.

71 ARI 71
Do you think she used her super-smelling powers again?

72 OLIVE 72
Maybe. Should we try?

The kids close their eyes and sniff the air (as they did at the bakery.)

73 ARI 73
I can't really smell which fruits are which.

74 ELINOR 74
Me neither.

75 MS. GORILLA 75
If you kids are hungry, help yourselves to fruit.

They open their eyes. Elinor picks up an apple and holds it.

76 ELINOR 76
This apple looks good. Ooh, feel how smooth it is.

Olive picks up an orange.

77 OLIVE 77
And feel this orange - bumpy!

Ari picks up a bunch of grapes.

78 ARI 78
And these grapes are small and
round.
(he squeezes on, it pops,
he laughs)
And squishy if I squeeze too hard!

79 OLIVE 79
The fruits all feel different.

80 ELINOR 80
Ooh - I wonder if Ms. Mole can tell
which fruits she wants by touching
them.

Ms. Gorilla cuts up a fresh apple and offers it to them on a
tray, along with grapes and banana slices.

81 MS. GORILLA 81
Here's the fruits you chose. Try a
little!

They all help themselves. As Ari chews on a grape:

82 ARI 82
(mouth full)
Maybe she also used taste! The
fruits all taste different.

The kids munch the fruit, thoughtful.

83 OLIVE 83
Banana tastes the best!

84 ARI 84
We knew you'd say that!

85 ELINOR 85
Thanks for the fruit, Ms. Gorilla.
Do you know where Ms. Mole was
going next?

86 MS. GORILLA 86
She was heading to the park with
her basket of food.

87 OLIVE 87
Maybe she's going to have a picnic!

88 ELINOR 88
Let's go and find her.

CUT TO:

9 EXT. PARK - DAY - MOMENTS LATER 9

The kids enter arrive at the park, and look around for Ms. Mole.

WIDE: There are many people out there enjoying the pleasant day, making it hard for the kids to spot Ms. Mole. Maybe the kids are up on a small rise by the side of the park, to get a good view.

89 OLIVE 89
There are so many people here.

ARI

90 But I don't see Ms. Mole. 90

Elinor keeps scanning the park, looking for Ms. Mole.

91 ELINOR 91
There she is!

She points into the distance.

92 ELINOR (CONT'D) 92
Over there!

As all the kids turn to look, their POV--

ANGLE ON: Ms. Mole is ambling along. A LITTLE KID walking in front of her is eating a banana, and accidentally drops it on the sidewalk, right where Ms. Mole is about to step! NOTE: she is too far away to hear them.

[illegible]

BACK ON: Suddenly Ms. Mole stops stop. CU MS. MOLE'S NOSE -
lifted into the air and twitching to pick up a scent.

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94             MS. MOLE
94             (sniff, sniff)

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WIDEN: Ms. Mole side-steps the banana peel, then picks it up and puts it in a nearby trash can.

BACK ON: the kids, watching.

95 ELINOR 95
 (interested)
 Ooooooh.

96 OLIVE 96
 <PHEW!> That was close.

BACK ON PARK WIDE: A kid kicks a soccer ball hard <SFX: BAM>
it flies towards Ms. Mole.

CU ON: Ms. Mole hears the kick <NB: Moles have good hearing,
but their ears are not visible. Maybe she holds up her head to
the side of her ears?>

ON: The kids.

97 ARI 97
 Uh-oh! That ball's heading
 straight for...

BACK ON the ball comes flying OS towards Ms. Mole. At just
the right moment, and <BAM> KICKS the ball back toward the
soccer field.

BACK ON: The kids!

98 ELINOR 98
 (interested)
 Hmmmmmm.

99 ARI 99
 Yay! Ms. Mole!

100 OLIVE 100
 Come on! Let's bring her her
 glasses.

WIDE: The kids are running to Ms. Mole sets up her picnic
near a big tree with <SFX: SINGING BIRDS>. She lays out her
blanket and picnic food items.

Nearby, a YOUNG COUPLE is talking and one of them has his
foot on a log. Suddenly, his foot slips and the log rolls
over toward Ms. Mole, making <SFX: RUMBLING SOUND>.

ON MS. MOLE - as the log rolls closer to her, Ms. Mole stops
it with her foot, then sits on it in perfect timing.

ON THE KIDS - they see this and are amazed.

101 OLIVE (CONT'D) 101
 How did she do that?

102 ELINOR 102

That's so interesting! Ms. Mole
must have HEARD the log rumbling
over to her.

103 OLIVE 103
Like she heard the soccer ball!

104 ARI 104

(excited, lous)

So she has super smell, super-
touch, super-taste AND super-
hearing.

(cheering)

Ms. Mole is AMAZE...!

(realizing)

Wait, where did she go?

Just then, Ms. Mole pops up right next to them, startling them.

105 MS. MOLE 105
Boo! Don't forget my super sense of
humor! Boo!

106 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 106
(laugh)

107 OLIVE 107

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

108 MS. MOLE 108
(laughs)
It was easy. I could hear you! We
Moles have great hearing,
especially for loud things.

She glances affectionately at Ari.

109	ARI	109
	Like me!	

110	OLIVE	110
	You left your glasses in the	
	classroom, so we wanted to bring	
	them to you!	

111 MS. MOLE 111
Thank you! That's very kind of you
to track me all the way to the
park!

Olive hands her the glasses. She wipes them and puts them on.

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

112 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 112
Ah, that's a bit better.

113 OLIVE 113
Can you see perfectly now, Ms. Mole?

114 MS. MOLE 114
No, my glasses help me see much better, but not perfectly. And that's okay. Do you know why?

115 ARI 115
Why?

116 MS. MOLE 116
Moles like me don't need strong eyes - we live in dark tunnels. So... my eyes aren't the only way I can see.

117 ELINOR 117
Ooh - now I know! You "saw" with smell when you picked the bread, and with touch when you felt the fruits, and with hearing when you found us in the park!

118 MS. MOLE 118
Very good! Glad you understand.

Ms. Mole sings a ditty (over which we see clips of her getting around the park earlier - kicking the ball, picking up the banana peel, etc.)

119 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 119
(singing)

*In this great big world,
I use more than just my eyes,
To find what I need,
Other senses help me guide.*

*When I need to know,
where the bread goes,
I find the bakery,
with just my nose.*

*When I want to be,
near something I hear,
I find those birds,
with just my ears!
In this great big world,
(MORE)*

MS. MOLE (CONT'D)
*I use more than just my eyes,
 To find what I need,
 Other senses help me guide.*

BACK TO SCENE

120 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 120
 And now let's find a good picnic
 spot!

She walks along the fence as the kids follow. As we hear
 BIRDS CHIRPING, Ms. Mole stops under the tree.

121 OLIVE 121
 How did you choose this spot, Ms.
 Mole? It's perfect.

122 MS. MOLE 122
 I heard birds singing, so I know
 there's a big, shady tree nearby.

The kids help Ms. Mole spread out the picnic blanket, and she
 sets the food items out.

123 ARI 123
 Oooh, I loove a picnic.

He reaches for some fruit, but Ms. Mole turns to him.

124 MS. MOLE 124
 Ah-ah, Ari, let's wait for everyone
 to sit down first.

125 ELINOR 125
 How did you know Ari was taking
 fruit? Did you see, smell or hear?

126 MS. MOLE 126
 I don't need my eyes, nose or ears
 to know Ari is always hungry! Just
 my brain!

They all laugh as they begin the picnic.

IRIS OUT:

10 THE END 10