

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW116 INTERSTITIAL: MZ. MOLE STORY TIME: GROW LIKE THE WIND

Written by

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Follows 141 "Zig Zag Plant"

Curriculum: Different plants grow at different speeds. The kids learn that the fastest growing plant (a type of bamboo) can grow up to 35 inches per day, while the world's slowest growing plants (like the saguaro cactus) may grow less than an inch per year.

Learning Goals: LS8: There are many different kinds of living things and they may be similar or different

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Ari and Elinor are surprised to find Mz. Mole laying on the ground and staring closely at the dirt in the school garden bed.

3 MZ. MOLE 3

The garden, of course. I'm watching
the plants grow.

5 MZ. MOLE 5
Some plants can grow quicker than
you might think. Look here.

2. INT. BOOK - MZ. MOLE'S KITCHEN - DAY

6

MZ. MOLE (V.O.)

6

All plants need water and sunlight
to grow. But different kinds of
plants grow at different speeds.
Cactus like this one...
(she indicates with her
finger)
might grow very slowly, while
bamboo plants like this one
(MORE)

MZ. MOLE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 (again indicating with her
 finger)
 can grow very quickly.

7 ARI (V.O.) 7
 They look the same size to me.

8 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 8
 Yes, they might start out the same
 size, but let's see what happens
 later in the day around lunchtime.

Mz. Mole has finished her breakfast and exits the scene. The sun through the window moves, indicating a change in time. It is now lunchtime, and the light is coming straight through the window. The cactus has not changed size, but the bamboo has grown 10 inches taller. Mz. Mole re-enters and sits down at the table for lunch. She eats a veggie sandwich.

9 ELINOR (V.O.) 9
 Look! The bamboo is taller!

10 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 10
 That's right. By lunchtime, the
 bamboo has grown much taller.

11 ARI (V.O.) 11
 But the cactus didn't change!

12 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 12
 That's true. Let's see what happens
 even later in the day, around
 dinner time.

Mz. Mole has finished her lunch and exits the scene. The sunlight through the window changes, indicating a change in time. It is now dinner time, and the light is almost dark. The cactus still has not changed size, but the bamboo has grown another 10 inches taller. Mz. Mole re-enters and sits down at the table for dinner. She eats a salad.

13 ELINOR (V.O.) 13
 Wow! The bamboo is even taller!

14 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 14
 Yes! The fastest growing plant in
 the world is a type of bamboo like
 this one and can grow 35 inches
 taller in a single day!

15 ARI (V.O.) 15
 35 inches! That's almost as tall as
 me!

16 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 16
And it can do that in only one day.

17 ELINOR 17
But the cactus still hasn't grown
any.

18 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 18
That's true. For some cactus, it
may take an entire year to grow
just one inch.

19 ARI (V.O.) 19
That's really slow!

3. EXT. SCHOOL GARDEN - DAY

BACK AT: The school garden. Mz. Mole closes the book.

20 ARI 20
If I could be a plant, I'd want to
be bamboo. Then I'd be a giant in
no time!

They all laugh. Something on the ground catches Elinor's eye.
A tiny green sprout is peeking out of the dirt.

21 ELINOR 21
Look Mz. Mole! The garden is
growing!

22 MZ. MOLE 22
Ooh! I wonder how big it will get.
There's only one way to find out!

The three of them lay down on the ground around the tiny
sprout and watch it closely.

23 ARI 23
If this is going to take a while,
I'm going to need a snack.

Everyone <SFX: LAUGHS>.

THE END.