

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW126 INTERSTITIAL: SEÑOR TAPIR: HOLD ON TIGHT!

Written by

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FOLLOWS: EPISODE 152

CURRICULUM: Scientist and explorer John Muir once climbed a giant pine tree to experience what trees experience in a wind storm.

LS2: Plants have different parts that help them grow and survive.

FIRST DRAFT: November 05, 2019

Open on Señor Tapir, with his guitar, standing in the snow next to Elinor, Ari and Olive. Everyone is wearing winter coats and hats. They all marvel at a youngish pine tree (not much taller than Sr. Tapir) that is bent over to the ground by the weight of the snow covering it.

SEÑOR TAPIR

Oh, I don't think so. Trees like
this one were born to bend but not
break. A scientist named John Muir
once climbed a very tall pine tree
during a wind storm, to feel how
much it could bend.

4 SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D) 4
John Muir was a man who loved to
explore,

We see John Muir (depicted as a black bear with a beard and wearing a traveler's hat, brown slacks, a brown vest over a white long-sleeve collared shirt) hiking through a California mountain forest full of very tall pine trees.

The wind begins to blow very strong. John Muir's hat blows off and his beard blows sideways. Bits of twigs, leaves and pine needles fly through the air. He looks up at the trees which begin to sway wildly.

6

SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D)

6

And whoah the wind really started
to blow,
And that's when John wanted to know
How it feels at the top of swaying
tree.

John climbs up a 100 foot tall Douglas Fir (Douglas Spruce)
tree to the very top. A rope around his waist is tied to the
tree trunk at the top for safety. The tree sways back and
forth, nearly half way to the ground, taking John for a very
wild ride. Back and forth, back and forth - John is loving
it.

7

SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D)

7

He climbed a spruce to the tippity
top.
And didn't come down til the wind
had stopped.
Just holding on tight and loving
the way,
The tree would bend...but it would
not break.

As he sways, John looks out over the mountain slopes as the
wind rolls over the forests. It looks like a grand field of
wheat swaying in the wind, only it's trees - rolling like
waves on the ocean.

One hundred feet high swinging in
the breeze,
John Muir could marvel at the other
trees,
As the forest danced and rolled
like ocean waves.

Trees are strong but flexible too.
And only John Muir really knew,
What it was like to be a tree on
that stormy day.

The tree sways back and forth, nearly half way to the ground,
taking John for a very wild ride. John is loving it.

8

SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D)

8

He climbed a spruce to the tippity
top,
And didn't come down til the wind
had stopped.
(MORE)

SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D)
 Just holding on tight and loving
 the way,
 The tree would bend...but it would
 not break.

3. EXT FOREST -- WINTER DAY

The kids <SFX: CHEER> as Señor Tapir finishes his song.

9	SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D)	9
	Gracias amigos!	
10	ELINOR	10
	Trees are amazing!	
11	SEÑOR TAPIR	11
	Si.	

Señor Tapir brushes the snow off the pine tree, and it
 suddenly springs upright, showering Señor Tapir with snow
 <SFX: WHAAA!> . Everyone <SFX: LAUGHS>.

END