

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW131 Make Music, Naturally!

By: Kate Barris

Elinor's Question: How can we make our own musical instruments?

Logline: Elinor wants to find a way to make music with Sr. Tapir.

Curriculum Goals:

SEP1. Asking questions

a. Demonstrate curiosity about the greater world outside of their local environment

c. Ask and/or identify cause and effect questions that can be answered by an investigation

SEP4. Analyzing and interpreting data

b. Use the 5 senses and simple tools to gather and record data

SEP6. Constructing explanations

a. Use background knowledge experiences, and data to construct reasonable explanations and theories of natural phenomena

LS1. Understand that all living things have external parts a. Identify and describe the physical characteristics of a variety of animals and plants b. Record observations about an animal's or plant's physical appearance. (Elinor and her friends observe plants and animals that make rhythmic sounds.)

ND3. Understand that structures and materials in the natural world can be used or can inspire the engineering of structures with similar function in the designed world.

(Elinor and her friends make percussion instruments inspired by what they've observed.)

Main Characters: Elinor, Ari, Olive, Sr. Tapir, audience members (no lines)

Locations: Forest, Park

Props: Sticks, hollow log, bean pods, beans, Sr. Tapir's guitar

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1. EXT. THE PARK - DAY

A HIGH SHOT up in the trees. We hear <BIRDS TWEETING, LEAVES RUSTLING, CRICKETS CHIRPING>, and then we hear...

1 ELINOR (O.S.) 1
Are you ready to play a new game?

Olive and Ari react with enthusiastic <WALLA>. *

2. EXT. THE PARK - CONTINUOUS *

CLOSE ON: ELINOR. She smiles as she points to her ear. *

2 ELINOR 2
It's called "I Hear With My Big Ear".

3 OLIVE 3
Oooh! I have a big ear. (giggle) I have **two** of them. *

4 ARI 4
What if I don't have a big ear?

5 ELINOR 5
Good point. Then, let's call it "I Hear with My **Own** Ear." *

6 ARI 6
I like that. So... How do we play? *

7 ELINOR 7
I tell you what I hear, and you have to find what's making the sound.

8 OLIVE 8
Sounds like fun! (giggle)

Elinor closes her eyes. Her ears SWIVEL. <BIRDS TWEETING, LEAVES RUSTLING, CRICKETS CHIRPING>. Cricket reference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Re72di5phM0> *

9 ELINOR 9
Let's play. I hear with my own ear something that sounds like...
"chirp, chirp". <spoken> *

Olive and Ari listen. It's quiet for a second, then we hear <CRICKETS CHIRPING>. They both react with smiles. *

10	OLIVE	10	*
	Oh! I hear it!		*
	Ari looks and spots a CRICKET chirping on a leaf.		*
11	ARI	11	*
	And I see it! It's that cricket,		*
	right?		*
12	ELINOR	12	*
	Right! Now you try, Olive. What do		*
	you hear with your own ear?		*
	Olive <GIGGLES> then listens. Suddenly we hear <CRUNCH,		*
	CRUNCH, CRUNCH>.		*
13	OLIVE	13	*
	I hear, with my own ear, something		*
	that sounds like... Crunching?		*
	Olive and Elinor look puzzled.		*
	They turn and look at Ari, who has HALF A CRACKER in his hand		
	and is clearly crunching the other half.		
14	OLIVE (CONT'D)	14	
	It's Ari eating a cracker!		
	Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE> and Ari looks a little guilty.		
15	ARI	15	
	Oops. Sorry.		
16	ELINOR	16	*
	It's okay, Ari. Try again, Olive.		
17	OLIVE	17	*
	I hear with my own ear something		*
	that sounds like...		*
	Suddenly there's a loud MUSICAL STRUM ON A GUITAR.		
18	OLIVE (CONT'D)	18	
	Music??		
	Surprised, the three of them look around to find the source		*
	of the music.		
	ON: SEÑOR TAPIR, who is <STRUMMING> his guitar in the park by		
	THE GLOBE (or A GAZEBO).		
19	ELINOR	19	
	It's Señor Tapir. Come on!		

They hurry off to see him, as the <STRUMMING> continues.

3. EXT. THE PARK - CONTINUOUS

The kids rush up to Señor Tapir, who smiles and plays another flourish on his guitar.

20	ELINOR	20	
	Señor Tapir!		
21	SEÑOR TAPIR	21	
	Buenos Dias, amigos. So wonderful to see you.		*
22	OLIVE	22	*
	We were playing a listening game and we heard some music.		*
23	SEÑOR TAPIR	23	*
	Yes, I'm practicing a song I learned while traveling through the Andes Mountains. It goes like this: <i>I knew a toucan from Peru Who loved singing wherever he flew He would never just speak When he opened his beak He would sing a whole song just for you!</i>		*
	He plays a final flourish. Elinor, Olive and Ari applaud with <CHEERS, WALLA>		*
24	ELINOR	24	*
	Great song, Señor Tapir.		
25	SEÑOR TAPIR	25	*
	I'm so glad you like it. I'll be singing it in our concert later. Are you coming?		*
26	ELINOR	26	
	There's going to be a concert??		
27	SEÑOR TAPIR	27	
	Si! The best kind of concert - the kind where anyone can join and play.		*
28	ARI	28	*
	Play? Play what?		

Señor Tapir gives his guitar a <STRUM>.

29	SEÑOR TAPIR Play musical instruments! It's so exciting, isn't it?	29	*
Elinor, Olive and Ari look at each other.			
30	ARI Yes, except we don't have any instruments to play.	30	* * *
31	ELINOR Aw. I really wanted to join the concert.	31	* * *
Olive sighs in disappointment. Then she looks at her trunk. She reacts with a smile.			
32	OLIVE Wait a second. I have my own built- in musical instrument. I can trumpet with my trunk.	32	
She demonstrates <TRUMPETING>. Elinor <LAUGHS>. Ari does a back flip in excitement.			
33	OLIVE (CONT'D) Does that count?	33	*
Señor Tapir is delighted.			
34	SEÑOR TAPIR Of course! There are many different ways to make music. You just have to be creative.	34	
35	ELINOR So if we all find musical instruments, we can play in your concert?	35	
36	SEÑOR TAPIR That would make me very happy! But now it's time for me to go. Good luck and see you later, amigos.	36	* * *
He walks off, <STRUMMING> his guitar.			
Elinor, Ari and Olive wave goodbye <WALLA> then look at each other.			
37	ARI How are we going get our own musical instruments?	37	

38 ELINOR 38
Señor Tapir said to be creative.

39 OLIVE 39
That means we have to think about
things in different ways. *

Elinor looks at Olive, and her trunk, then gets an idea.

40 ELINOR 40
Olive made music with her trunk.
Maybe we can make music with **our**
bodies. What if I wiggle my ears,
and you flap your wings? *

Elinor wiggles her ears. Ari flaps his wings. No real sound. *

41 ELINOR (CONT'D) 41
Hmm, I don't think I made any
music. *

42 ARI 42
Yeah, I hear with my own ear...
Nothing. *

But then, in the distance, we hear a <TAP, TAP-TAP, TAP>.

Elinor reacts. Her ears swivel.

43 ELINOR 43
Wait. Now I hear with my own ear -
something that sounds like... *Tap*
tap tap? *

Ari reacts and points toward the forest. *

44 ARI 44
It's coming from the forest. Let's
go check it out! *

4. EXT. FOREST - A LITTLE LATER

The three walk, looking around, with Elinor in the lead.

45 ARI 45
I don't see anything making that
tapping sound. *

Suddenly, there it is again. <TAP, TAP-TAP, TAP>.

Elinor stops. Ari and Olive bump into her.

46 OLIVE 46
Ooof!

47 ARI 47
Elinor, why'd you stop? *

48 ELINOR 48
Listen. Do you hear it? I think
it's close. *

They all listen. And then ... <TAP, TAP-TAP, TAP>.

49 OLIVE 49
It sounds kind of like a drum.

50 ELINOR 50
But I don't see anyone playing a
drum. So what's making that sound? *

51 ARI 51
An *invisible* drummer?

52 ELINOR 52
(giggle) I don't think so.

53 OLIVE 53
Let's spread out and see if we can
find where it's coming from.

WIDE SHOT: They walk in different directions. And then, we
hear <TAP, TAP-TAP, TAP>. They stop and listen. The tapping
stops. They all walk in a different direction. They hear
<TAP, TAP-TAP, TAP> again. They stop. Elinor points off in
one direction.

54 ELINOR 54
It's coming from over there! *

The others follow Elinor. And we hear, louder, a <TAP, TAP-
TAP, TAP>. Elinor looks up. *

55 ELINOR (CONT'D) 55
I think it's up in this tree.

They look up.

ANGLE ON: A WOODPECKER hopping around on the side of the
tree, searching for the right spot.

56 ARI 56
All I see is a bird hopping around.

The bird stops and taps its beak on the trunk. <TAP TAP TAP>.

57 ELINOR 57
Look. That little bird is making *
those tapping sounds.

58	ARI	58
	Wow! That's a pretty loud sound for such a little bird. Why d'you think it's doing that?	

Olive reaches into her satchel and pulls out her NATURE BOOK.

59 OLIVE 59
Let's see if I can find that bird *
in my nature book.

She opens her book and flips through some pages, then finds the right one.

60 OLIVE (CONT'D) 60
Hmmm. Oh! Here! I think it's a *
woodpecker. Look.

CLOSE ON: Illustration in Olive's book shows a woodpecker poking its beak into tree bark.

61	OLIVE (CONT'D)	61
	(reading) Woodpeckers are birds	
	that tap on trees to make holes, so	*
	they can get at insects inside. It	*
	says they have a really strong and	
	hard beak.	*

From the book, we go to the live woodpecker as it starts pecking at the tree with a very loud <TAP, TAP-TAP, TAP>.

62	ELINOR	62
	That's SO interesting! The beak is	*
	hard, and the tree is hard. When	*
	you hit hard things together, you	*
	get a tap-tap-tapping sound.	

Ari starts moving his body to the <TAP TAP TAPPING>.

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63          ARI 63
You also get a pretty cool beat.
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Elinor and Olive look at Ari and then <GIGGLE> and join the dance. The three do a goofy dance, kinda like <https://www.dropbox.com/s/5apjlyjsaggyvwg/calvin-hobbes-dance-comic.jpg?dl=0> *

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...until the bird STOPS TAPPING and flies off. The kids <SFX: *
GIGGLE AND LAUGH>. *
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...until the bird STOPS TAPPING and flies off. The kids <SFX: *
GIGGLE AND LAUGH>. *
```

Elinor has a thought. *

64	ELINOR	64	
	If I were a bird with a hard beak		*
	to tap, tap, tap with, I'd have my		*
	own musical instrument. I'd be just		*
	like Olive with her trunk-trumpet,		*
	except my instrument would be like		*
	a drum.		*

5. EXT. FURTHER IN THE FOREST - A LITTLE WHILE LATER *

They walk, with Elinor in the lead. Suddenly, she stops.
Olive and Ari bump into her again.

65	OLIVE	65	
	Oof.		
66	ARI	66	
	Elinor? Why'd you stop again?		
67	ELINOR	67	
	Now I hear with my own ear...		*
	Something that sounds like		*
	rattling?		*

They get very quiet and they hear a <RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE>.

68	OLIVE	68	
	Is someone playing maracas?		
69	ARI	69	
	I don't know. (beat) What are		*
	maracas?		

A THOUGHT BUBBLE appears over Olive's head, with two MARACAS.

Olive MIMES shaking a maraca in each hand.

70	OLIVE	70	
	They're these instruments you hold		*
	in your hands. And they have stuff		
	that rattles inside. So when you		*
	shake them, they sound like...		
	<RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE>.		*

71	OLIVE (CONT'D)	71	
	Just like that.		

72	ELINOR	72	
	But who's making the sound?		*

Ari looks around, then gets a funny idea.

73	ARI	73	*
	An <i>invisible</i> maracas player?		*

	Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE>. They listen for a second. Then	*
	they hear it again. <RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE>. In unison they	*
	all point in the same direction.	

74	ELINOR	74	*
	Over there!		*

CLOSE ON: Bean pods blowing in the wind. <RATTLE RATTLE> Some are GREEN and some are BROWN.

Elinor, Ari and Olive approach and look at the bean pods waving and <RATTLING>.

75	ARI	75	*
	The sound is coming from these		*
	plants.		*

76	OLIVE	76	*
	I've seen these plants before.		*
	They're bean plants. See, the beans		*
	grow inside those pods.		*

77	ARI	77	*
	Cool! Beans! ...But is that what's		*
	making the rattling sound?		

They look around.

78	OLIVE	78	*
	What else could it be?		

79	ELINOR	79	
	We need more observations!		

Ari looks more closely at the pods.

80	ARI	80	*
	Some of the bean pods are green and		
	some are brown.		

	Elinor touches a green pod. It's squishy. She shakes it but	*
	there's no sound.	*

81	ELINOR	81	*
	The green ones are squishy. They		*
	don't make any rattling sounds.		

Olive touches a brown pod and reacts.

82 OLIVE 82
This brown one is hard and dry. *

Ari squats down and finds some brown bean pods on the ground.
One is split open, revealing the hard brown beans inside.

83 ARI 83
The beans inside are hard and dry
too.

A gust of wind blows on the brown hanging bean pods and they
<RATTLE> in the breeze. *

84 ELINOR 84
Listen. When the wind blows, it
makes the hard beans rattle inside
the pods. *

85 ARI 85
(triumphantly) So the **wind** is the
invisible maracas player. *

They all <giggle>. Then Ari picks up a brown pod with each
hand and shakes one <RATTLE> and then the other <RATTLE>. *

86 ARI (CONT'D) 86
I can make them rattle, just like
the wind.

All of a sudden, Elinor gets an idea.

87 ELINOR 87
And that makes you... *

Olive catches on and joins Elinor.

88 ELINOR/OLIVE 88
A maracas player!

Ari looks from one hand to the other, and then realizes
they're right. He gives his "maracas" a few rhythmic shakes
<RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE>

89 ARI 89
Haha! I'm a **bean** maracas player. *
Wait a minute, I could use these as *
my instrument for the concert. *

90 OLIVE 90
Yeah, that's great Ari! <beat> But
we should all get to play an
instrument. So we need one for you, *
Elinor. *

Elinor smiles with an idea.

91	ELINOR	91	*
	Ari got the idea for his instrument		*
	from something we heard in the		*
	forest.		*
92	ARI	92	*
	(proudly) That's called being		*
	creative.		*
	He gives his bean maracas a <RATTLE>.		*
93	ELINOR	93	*
	We could try doing the same thing		*
	for <i>my</i> instrument. What else did we		*
	hear in the forest?		*
	A THOUGHT BALLOON forms over their heads, and we see the		*
	WOODPECKER TAPPING ON THE TREE <TAP TAP TAP>.		*
94	OLIVE	94	*
	We heard the woodpecker that		*
	sounded like a drummer.		*
95	ELINOR	95	*
	That's it! Maybe I can be a		*
	drummer.		*
96	ARI	96	*
	Too bad you don't have a hard beak.		*
	The woodpecker in the thought bubble is replaced with Elinor-		*
	with-a-beak.		*
97	ELINOR	97	*
	No, but I could use something else		*
	hard instead. Like a stick!		*
	Elinor picks up a nearby STICK. Elinor-with-a-beak disappears		*
	in the thought bubble and is replaced with A STICK.		*
98	OLIVE	98	*
	But what are you going to hit with		*
	the stick? We can't bring a whole		*
	tree to the concert.		*
99	ELINOR	99	*
	Let's try hitting different things		*
	with the stick until we find		*
	something that sounds just right.		*

100	ARI	100	*
	Yes! Then we can all play in Señor Tapir's concert!		*

They hurry off.

6. EXT. FOREST - MONTAGE

1)	Ari looks around and then points to the ground. Elinor taps the stick on the ground. Not much sound. She shakes her head "No".	*
		*

2)	Olive holds out an APPLE, and Elinor taps it with the stick. No sound. Elinor shakes her head "No."	*
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3)	Ari finds a SMALL HOLLOWED OUT LOG and holds it up for Elinor. She tries tapping the stick against the log <TAP, TAP-TAP TAP>. All three nod their heads, "YES"!	*
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4)	They head back toward the park, Ari holding his BEAN PODS and Elinor holding her STICK AND HOLLOW LOG.	*
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7. EXT. PARK - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Ari and Olive run to Sr. Tapir with their "instruments". He is at the gazebo, strumming his guitar. There are some members of the COMMUNITY who have gathered for the show. Some are on blankets, some have instruments, others walk along and stop to watch etc.	*
	*

101	SEÑOR TAPIR	101	
	Amigos. You're just in time for the concert. Did you find instruments to play?		

102	OLIVE	102	*
	We sure did. You told us to be creative, and we were.		*
			*

103	ELINOR	103	*
	We got our ideas by listening to Nature.		*
			*

104	SEÑOR TAPIR	104	*
	Really? That sounds wonderful!		*

105	ELINOR	105	*
	Wait till you hear. Olive is going to trumpet with her trunk.		*
			*

Olive raises her trunk and <TRUMPETS!>

106	ELINOR (CONT'D)	106	*
	I'm going to be drumming on a		*
	hollow log.		

Elinor does a little <DRUMMING RIFF> tapping out rhythm with two sticks on the hollowed out log.

107	ARI	107	*
	And I'll be playing bean pod		*
	maracas.		

Ari dances and shakes his bean pods <RHYTHMIC RATTLE>.

108	ELINOR	108	*
	We found all of these instruments		*
	by being creative and listening to		*
	Nature!		*

Señor Tapir applauds enthusiastically.

109 SEÑOR TAPIR 109

That is very clever, amigos! Ok, *

shall we make some music now? *

Elinor, Ari and Olive react with excited <WALLA>.

SONG: MAKE MUSIC, NATURALLY

110 SR. TAPIR/ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 110

*Sr. Tapir: There is music all
around us
From the birds and from the bees
From the babbling of a brook
And the whistling of a breeze*

*If you want to make some music
You can play along with me
Use your own imagination
And make music, naturally!*

(spoken) Join in amigos! *

*Elinor: I'll tap these sticks just
like a drum,* *

*S. Tapir: Tap along with me while I
strum*

Elinor does a little <DRUM RIFF> using the sticks on the log,
as Señor Tapir strums. *

*Ari: Hear the rattling sound I make
When I give these beans a shake.*

Ari shakes the bean pods and dances to the rhythm.

Señor Tapir responds with a guitar flourish.

*Olive: With my trunk I'll play
along
Adding trumpet to our song.*

Olive does a jazzy little "trumpet" solo on her trunk. *

*ALL: If you want to make some music
You can play along with me
Use your own imagination
And make music, naturally!*

111 SEÑOR TAPIR 111
There's nothing better than making
music - naturally! Si, amigos?

112 ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE 112
Si, Señor Tapir!

113 ELINOR 113
Let's play it again!

114 SR. TAPIR/ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 114
*ALL: If you want to make some music
You can play along with me
Use your own imagination
And make music, naturally!*

As they sing and play the final verse again, we ...

FADE OUT.

SEGMENT 2. *

1. EXT. RIVER BEHIND SCHOOL - DAY *

*Mz. Mole unexpectedly and excitedly runs through the scene
past a group of children playing on the school playground
(Elinor, Olive, Ari, Mary, Liv, Koa, Sally).* *

115 MZ. MOLE 115 *
It's starting! It's starting! *

116 ELINOR 116 *
(Calling after her) Mz. Mole? *
What's starting? *

117	MZ. MOLE	117	*
	The concert! Come along children!		*
	We don't want to be late!		*
	Giggling, the children chase after her. When they catch up with her, she is sitting by the edge of the river, holding a pop-up book with one hand and excitedly holding theater binoculars up to her eyes with the other hand. The children look down at the river and notice Mz. Mole is staring at a tiny spring peeper frog that is calling with its throat puffing out with a <SFX: PEEP, PEEP>.		*
			*
			*
			*
			*
			*
			*
118	ARI	118	*
	Uhhh it's a frog.		*
119	MZ. MOLE	119	*
	Exactly! Isn't it marvelous!		*
120	OLIVE	120	*
	Where's the concert? Is Sr. Tapir going to play for us?		*
			*
121	MZ. MOLE	121	*
	The concert is right here. The frogs are going to sing for us. Listen!		*
			*
			*
122	ARI	122	*
	Wow! I didn't know frogs could sing.		*
			*
	Elinor uses Mz. Mole's binoculars. BIN POV she sees a wood frog floating in the water and <SFX: WOOD FROG CROAKING> with ballooning vocal sacs.		*
			*
	BACK ON: Mz. Mole and the kids.		*
123	ELINOR	123	*
	Mz. Mole, why is that frog puffing up its throat like a balloon?		*
			*
124	MZ. MOLE	124	*
	Good question. That balloon you see is called the vocal sac, and it makes the frog's singing louder.		*
			*
	Mz. Mole brings up the pop-up book: a guide to the frog orchestra. She opens the cover which reveals an image of a different kind of frog on each page.		*
			*
			*

2. INT. BOOK - DAY

ANGLE ON: The book illustrations of frogs come to life. We see an eastern gray tree-frog, a Goliath bullfrog and a coqui frog.

125 MZ. MOLE 125
There are nearly 5,000 different kinds of frogs. And they all have their own unique sound, like different instruments. Just listen.

As Mz. Mole names different species of frogs, we see and hear them calling.

126 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 126
The eastern gray tree-frog.

<SFX: EASTERN GRAY TREE FROG CROAKING>

127 OLIVE 127
That one's so cute.

128 MZ. MOLE 128
The Goliath bullfrog.

<SFX: GOLIATH FROG CROAKING>

129 ELINOR 129
(in a low voice)
It sounds so low!

130 MZ. MOLE 130
And the loudest of them all, the tiny but mighty coqui frog.

<SFX: COQUI FROG CROAKING>

131 ARI 131
Wow! That's a big sound for a little frog!

BACK AT: The river. The children look over at Mz. Mole who is holding a stick like a conductor's wand and waving it. The camera pulls out a bit to reveal Sr. Tapir playing guitar along with the frogs.

132 MZ. MOLE 132
Welcome Señor Tapir! Everyone grab a wand! Let's conduct our very own frog concert.

The children all now have sticks and are pretending to
conduct as we see and hear <SFX: A VARIETY OF FROGS> all
calling throughout the river - the eastern grey tree frog,
the Goliath Bullfrog, the Coqui frog <SFX: NOTE: other frogs
calls could include the northern spring peeper, the wood
frog, the western chorus frog, the green frog and the
bullfrog - these frogs do not necessarily need to be
designed>.

133 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 133
Ha ha! See, Nature makes music,
just like we do!

THE END.