

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EWW interstitial: 131

Mz. Mole Storytime

Ants Share Food

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Follows: ep 131A "Olive's Library"

Curriculum: the kids learn about the Honeypot Ant, an ant which stores up food when food is plentiful in the form of honey in their abdomens, and then shares the stored honey when food is scarce.

LS1. Understand that in some environments, food is sometimes plentiful and sometimes scarce.

LS2. Understand that ants live in large, communal groups called colonies, with different ants performing different functions.

LS3. Understand that certain individuals in a Honeypot Ant colony store up food as honey in their bodies when food is plentiful, so that they can share it later when food is scarce.

FIRST DRAFT: Feb. 10, 2020
SECOND DRAFT: Feb. 25, 2020
POLISH DRAFT: March 05, 2020

Pan in from the window that shows a snowy wintery setting outside. Olive stands at the front of the class proudly showing off a jar of cherries. Mz. Mole stands by as the rest of the class sits in the audience.

8 MZ. MOLE (O.C.) (CONT'D) 8
These are special kinds of ants,
called "Honeypot Ants"!

9 ARI (O.C.) 9
Why are they called "Honeypot
Ants"? They don't look like pots of
honey.

10 MZ. MOLE (O.C.) 10
Not yet, but they will!

We see the ants collecting nectar from flowers.

11 ELINOR (O.C.) 11
What are the ants doing, Mz. Mole?

12	MZ. MOLE (O.C.)	12
	The ants are taking nectar from the flowers. It's their food!	

13 ARI (O.C.) 13
Why don't they gobble it all up
right away?

14 MZ. MOLE (O.C.) 14
When there's extra, they save it
for later.

In the book, we see an ant with a bit of food in its mouth, walking toward a tiny jar.

15 ELINOR (O.C.) 15
How do they save it? Ants don't
have jars, do they?

16 MZ. MOLE (O.C.) 16

Ha! They don't have jars. Instead,
the ants bring the extra nectar to
the anthill and give it to a
special ant that stores it inside
its body!

(In book) The jar disappears in a poof. <SFX: POOF> The ants come back to the hive and join a queue leading up to a storage ant. The workers deliver their food to the storage ant one by one.

17 MZ. MOLE (O.S.) (CONT'D) 17
As more ants come with extra
nectar, these special ants grow...
and grow.... And grow...!

(In book) close up on hero ant's body as she transforms from a normal looking ant and gradually swells to have the iconic honeypot ant shape. Her abdomen is huge and translucent, full of golden liquid food. Her little legs wiggle around, unable to move her body. She looks stuffed!

18 ARI (O.C.) 18
Oh, I get it! That's why they're
called "honeypot ants!" Their
bodies look like pots full of
honey!

19 MZ. MOLE (O.C.) 19
And this little ant shares the
extra food with the other ants when
they need it later!

3. INT. CLASSROOM

Olive proudly holds her jar of cherries aloft again.

20 OLIVE 20
Wow, it's cool that ants save food
for later. Just like these
cherries!

21 ARI 21
Is it "later" yet..?

Olive pops off the lid of the jar with her trunk with a
flourish, and as she does so says..

22 OLIVE 22
Let's eat.