

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 132A Butterfly Party

By: Katherine Sandford

Elinor's Question: How can we get the butterflies to come to Olive's back yard?

Logline: It's Olive's Mom's birthday and the kids want to throw her a butterfly party, but they need REAL butterflies.

Cirriculum Goals: LS5. Begin to understand that animals depend on other living things in the environment to meet some of their needs: (Elinor observes that the butterflies prefer certain flowers that provide them with nectar).

ND2. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Systems'): Begin to understand that systems developed in our world often work in similar ways to systems found in the natural world. (Elinor and her friends decide to plant a garden that includes flowers that the butterflies naturally prefer).

SEP1. Asking questions (science) and defining problems (engineering)

b. Ask more complex questions about observable phenomena

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

d. Identify a problem that can be solved by the design of a new or improved object or tool (engineering) (Elinor and her friends question why there are no butterflies in Olive's garden, and when they realize through investigation that it's because there aren't any of the flowers that butterflies prefer, they design a butterfly garden.)

SEP3. Planning and carrying out investigations

b. Compare and contrast objects and events by describing similarities and differences in detail

c. Demonstrate an ability to make and test predictions based on background knowledge and experiences

e. Design and build a solution to a simple problem (Elinor and her friends compare and contrast the flowers to find the ones the butterflies prefer, they predict that if they plant those flowers in Olive's yard, the butterflies will come.

Then they make the butterfly garden, and it works!)

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1. EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE (FRONT DOOR) -- DAY

It's a beautiful summer day and ELINOR hops along in a fluttery way as she follows a butterfly. <SFX: OOOH WALLA>. Suddenly ARI runs OS.

1 ARI 1
 Elinor, come on, we're almost at
 Olive's house.

2 ELINOR 2
 Ok, coming.
 (to the butterfly)
 See you later, butterfly.

The butterfly flutters away as they get to the front door. Elinor <SFX: KNOCKS> and OLIVE'S MOM opens it.

3 OLIVE'S MOM 3
 Well, hello kids.

4 ELINOR 4
 Hi, Mz. Elephant. Can Olive come
 out and...

Suddenly OLIVE peeks out from behind her Mom with a big smile on her face.

5 OLIVE 5
 Ari! Elinor! Come with me...
 (She grabs her friends by
 the hands and pulls them
 inside.)
 Thanks Mom!

6 OLIVE'S MOM 6
 (surprised)
 OH! Okay, well, have fun kids.

2. INT. OLIVE'S ROOM - DAY

Olive takes her friends into her room.

7 ELINOR 7
 What is it Olive?

8 ARI 8
 Yeah, you sure seem....

Olive shushes him with her trunk and a friendly <SFX: SHUSHHHH WALLA> as her mother walks by the door on her way to the kitchen.

9 ARI (CONT'D) 9
 (whispering)
 ...excited.

Olive can't wait to share her news.

10	OLIVE	10
	(bubbling with joy)	
	I AM excited! Guess what? Today is	
	my Mom's birthday!	

<SFX: AWESOME/COOL WALLA>

11 OLIVE (CONT'D) 11
And I want to do something really
special for her.

12 ARI 12
Like what?

[illegible]

14 ARI 14

That's a FANTASTIC idea, Olive. We
could have a pirate party, like I
had on my birthday - Arrrrgh.

He does a little pirate pretend-playing <SFX: AHOY WALLA>.

15 ELINOR 15
Or a bunny-hopping party, like the
one I had.
 (Elinor starts hopping
 around)
Now that was a HOPPY birthday!

Olive smiles at her friend's energy.

16 OLIVE 16
(giggling)
You sure do like to hop, Elinor.

Ari jumps in front.

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17                                ARI                                17
                                And don't forget - I like PIRATES!
                                ARRRRGH!

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18 OLIVE 18
Buu-ut, I'm not sure my Mom likes
pirates that much... or bunny hops.

19 ELINOR 19
Right. We should plan a party with
something *she* likes.

ARI
OK, what does your Mom like, Olive?

21 OLIVE 21
Good question. I'm not sure. I see
her every day but I guess I've
never thought about what she likes.

ELINOR

Then let's find out... come on.

3. INT. OLIVE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Olive, Elinor and Ari poke their noses around the corner and watch Olive's Mom closely, trying to keep quiet so she doesn't see them (it's not easy, much <SFX: GIGGLING WALLA>).

23 ELINOR 23
(whispering giggling)
Let's observe your mom and see what
she likes.

ANGLE ON: Olive's Mom puts the last dish away, then settles at the kitchen table with a cup of tea and a magazine (with a butterfly on the cover).

24 ARI 24

She likes sitting quietly.

25 OLIVE 25
Yeah, but a sitting quietly party
doesn't sound like much fun.

26 ELINOR 26
Wait a minute... look at your Mom's
magazine.

ANGLE ON: The cover of Olive's Mom's magazine. A butterfly.

27 ARI 27
There's a picture of a butterfly.

28 ELINOR 28
And her apron.

21 ANGLE ON: The butterfly apron.

21

29 OLIVE 29
Another butterfly.

30 ELINOR 30
And her pin!
(ANGLE ON: The butterfly
pin)
I'm starting to see a pattern here.

QUICK CU's on various butterfly decorations all around the kitchen.

BACK ON: Olive figures it out.

31 OLIVE 31
Butterflies! My mom loves
butterflies. She has butterfly
decorations on EVERYTHING!

32 ARI 32
Yeah, there's butterfly stuff
everywhere.

33 ELINOR 33
 <GASP!> Let's have a butterfly
 party!

ANGLE ON: At that moment Olive's mom hears them.

34 OLIVE'S MOM 34
What are you kids up to?

35 OLIVE 35
Nothing, Mom! We're just going to
play outside, okay?

36 OLIVE'S MOM 36
OK, have fun.

Off they go.

4. EXT. OLIVE'S BACK YARD - DAY

The kids are in the back yard, near the flower garden.

37 ELINOR 37
I think your mom would love a
butterfly party. We could have it
right here in your yard. Your
garden is so nice.

ANGLE ON the beautiful flower garden, lots of pansies, lilies and roses. NOTE: It should NOT contain any of the flowers identified as "butterfly flowers" (i.e. Milkweed, marigolds, asters, phlox, sunflower, black-eyed susans)

38 OLIVE 38
Thanks! My mom and I planted it --
this is my part of the garden.

Olive points to a little section.

39 ELINOR 39
It's the perfect place for a
butterfly party.

40 ARI 40
OK, so what do we need?

41 OLIVE 41
Well, my mom already has butterfly
plates and napkins and decorations.

42 ARI 42
Wait, I know... what if we got some
REAL butterflies!

43 OLIVE 43
YES! Then they could fly around
and it'll be a REAL butterfly
party.

THOUGHT BUBBLE: medium shot of Olive's Mom with a birthday
hat surrounded by butterflies.

44 ELINOR 44
That would be so fun! Let's find
some butterflies for the party.

They wait for a beat, looking around.

45 ARI 45
Welp. I don't see any butterflies
around here.

46 OLIVE 46
Maybe we should try calling them.
(calling)
Butterflies!

47 ARI 47
(Calling)
Oh, BUUUTERFLIES!

48 ELINOR 48
(calling)
We want you to come to Olive's
Mom's party!

A beat. No butterflies.

49	OLIVE	49
	STILL no butterflies.	
50	ARI	50
	Maybe we should send them some Birthday Party invitations?	
51	OLIVE	51
	Hmmm. I don't think butterflies can read invitations, Ari.	
52	ELINOR	52
	I know there are butterflies around here somewhere.	
53	ARI	53
	Yeah, we just saw one a little while ago - come on, let's look around!	

The kids run off-screen.

5. EXT. MEADOW BESIDE OLIVE'S HOUSE - DAY

WIDE SHOT REVEALS: the kids running over to the field next door - part of it is just grass, but the farther part of the field has milkweed.

54	OLIVE	54
	(calling)	
	Butterflies! Butterflies!	
55	ARI	55
	(calling)	
	Butter-butter-butter-FLIES!!	
56	ELINOR	56
	That is so interesting! I wonder where all the butterflies are.	

The kids search around the grassy area for a beat or two, looking in the tall grass, behind a tree etc.

57	ARI	57
	I don't see any around here.	

Suddenly Elinor notices something.

58	ELINOR	58
	Look over THERE!	

ANGLE ON: The farther flowery part of the field, with lots of butterflies.

59 OLIVE 59
<GASP!> BUTTERFLIES!!

They run over to the part of the meadow that's dotted with wildflowers - and butterflies.

60 OLIVE (CONT'D) 60
Wow, look how many butterflies there are here.

61 ELINOR 61
(to butterflies)
Butterflies, we're having a birthday party for Olive's mom and we would love it if you came.

62 ARI 62
Yeah, it's over...
(he antics, pointing comically with his whole body)
...THIS way. C'mon.

63 OLIVE 63
Just fly over to my house, butterflies. I have a really nice garden.
(Olive flutters along like a butterfly for a beat, then turns, disappointed)
They're not coming.

64 ELINOR 64
They're just staying in this field.

65 ARI 65
I wonder why they like it here so much and not in Olive's garden?

66 OLIVE 66
Dun, dun, DUNNN - it's a mystery, a butterfly mystery...

67 ELINOR 67
We need MORE observations.

Olive, Ari and Elinor crouch down behind some tall grass. They watch the pretty scene of the butterflies fluttering around the flowers for a beat or two.

68 ELINOR (CONT'D) 68
OK, what's the difference between this field and the garden at Olive's house?

69 ARI 69
Both places have lots of sun.

70 OLIVE 70
And both places have lots of
flowers.

Elinor looks closely ANGLE ON: we see several shots of the
butterflies only hanging out near one type of flower (a
Milkweed flower).

71 ELINOR 71
Hmmm, the butterflies seem to
REALLY like that purple flower.
Olive, do you have that flower in
your garden?

72 OLIVE 72
I don't think so. We have red
flowers, and yellow flowers... but
we don't have that purple flower.

73 ELINOR 73
(Penny drops)
Maybe that's why the butterflies
are here and not in your garden.
They like this special kind of
flower.

74 ARI 74
I think you're right Elinor, they
seem to be big fans of that flower.

75 OLIVE 75
So how can we get the butterflies
to come to my garden if we don't
have these special flowers they
like?

The kids look stumped when suddenly they hear someone <SFX:
HUMMING> nearby.

76 OLIVE (CONT'D) 76
Who's humming?

77 ELINOR 77
I don't know. Let's find out.

And off they go.

6. EXT. MZ. MOLE'S GARDEN - DAY

The kids follow the <SFX: HUMMING> through some bushes, and Elinor sees....

78	ELINOR	78
	Mz. MOLE?	
79	MZ. MOLE	79
	Hello kids, welcome to my home.	
80	ARI	80
	(gob-smacked)	
	Wait, teachers have HOMES?	
81	MZ. MOLE	81
	That's right, and (gesturing)	
	gardens too.	
82	ARI	82
	Mind. Blown.	
83	ELINOR	83
	Wow, Mz. Mole your garden has so	
	many amazing flowers.	
84	OLIVE	84
	And LOTS of butterflies!	
85	ARI	85
	That's just what we were looking	
	for!	
86	MZ. MOLE	86
	Butterflies? Why are you looking	
	for butterflies?	
87	OLIVE	87
	For my mom's birthday. She loves	
	butterflies, so we want to surprise	
	her with a BUTTERFLY party.	
88	ARI	88
	With real butterflies!	
89	MZ. MOLE	89
	Oh, what a wonderful idea.	
90	ELINOR	90
	We saw some butterflies in that	
	field over there, but we couldn't	
	get them to come to our party.	

91 ARI 91
Yeah, they only seemed to like
hanging around a special flower.
(noticing) This one!

He points to the Milkweed, with butterflies hovering around.

92 MZ. MOLE 92

Ah, yes. Butterflies do like some flowers more than others. Lots of animals in Nature prefer certain plants. That one is called a milkweed.

The kids <SFX: OOOH, AHH WALLA>.

93 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 93
But butterflies also like
marigolds, lavender, asters, black-
eyed susans, phlox and sunflowers.

She points to each flower in turn <SFX: WOOW AWESOME WALLA>.

94 OLIVE 94
Wow, I wish I could have these
flowers in my garden. Then the
butterflies would come to my mom's
party for sure.

Elinor and Ari agree <SFX: YEAH WALLA>.

MZ. MOLE

You *can* have these flowers!

96 ELINOR 96
But how? We don't have time to
plant them and wait for them to
grow.

97 MZ. MOLE 97
That's ok. Take some of mine!

98 OLIVE 98
We can take some of your flowers?

99 MZ. MOLE 99
Sure! In gardening, it's OK to move
plants from one spot to another.
It's called 'transplanting'.

100 OLIVE 100
Transplanting. I LIKE that word.

7. GARDEN PLANTING MONTAGE

As they sing, Mz. Mole supervises the kids as they dig up some of the plants from her garden, put them in pots (in a wagon), then go and transplant them into Olive's garden.

101

ELINOR, OLIVE, ARI

OLIVE: Butterflies love flowers,
We all know it's true,
ELINOR: And they have their
favorites,
Just like me and you.

ARI: To have butterflies around,
Just listen to our song,
ELINOR: Plant the flowers that they
like,
And they will come along.

OLIVE: Marigold and milkweed
Lavender and phlox
ELINOR: These are the flowers
That butterflies like a lot

ARI: Sunflowers and Asters
Black-eyed Susans too
ELINOR: When you plant the flowers
that they like,
OLIVE: The butterflies will come to
you!

ALL: Butterflies love flowers,
We all know it's true,
And they have their favorites,
Just like me and youoooo.

101

After they plant the flowers in Olive's garden, one butterfly flutters in.

8. EXT. OLIVE'S BACK YARD (WITH BUTTERFLY GARDEN) -- DAY

The back yard is decorated with the butterfly decorations from the house, and we see butterfly plates and napkins. There's also a new butterfly garden (In Olive's section)

Olive leads her mother out of the house with her eyes closed.

102	OLIVE	102
	Okay, Mom, you can open your eyes now.	
103	ARI, ELINOR, MZ. MOLE	103
	SURPRISE!	

104	ARI	104
	Welcome to your butterfly party.	
105	ELINOR	105
	With real BUTTERFLIES!	
	Olive's Mom looks around in wonder.	
106	OLIVE'S MOM	106
	Wooooow. This is WONDERFUL.	
107	OLIVE	107
	Happy Butterfly Birthday, Mom.	
	Olive gives her Mom a big hug.	
108	OLIVE'S MOM	108
	Aww, thank you so much, kids.	
	(then she notices)	
	Mz. Mole? How nice to see you!	
109	MZ. MOLE	109
	Happy birthday, Mz. Elephant. I'm here as a butterfly garden helper.	
110	ELINOR	110
	We wanted real butterflies for your party, Mz. Elephant, so we OBSERVED some.	
111	OLIVE	111
	And we learned that they like some kinds of flowers more than others.	
112	ARI	112
	So Mz. Mole helped us bring some of her butterfly flowers here.	
113	OLIVE	113
	We TRANSPLANTED them into our garden, so the butterflies would come.	
114	ELINOR	114
	And they DID!!	
115	OLIVE'S MOM	115
	Wow, did they ever!! Look at all these beautiful butterflies.	

ANGLE ON: The garden and the fluttering butterflies - beauty!

116 OLIVE'S MOM (CONT'D) 116
You kids really know what flowers
the butterflies like. But how did
you figure out that I love
butterflies so much?

ANGLE ON: Olive's Mom's butterfly pin, butterfly apron and
butterfly decorations.

117 ELINOR 117
Oh, it wasn't that hard, Mz.
Elephant.
(Ari, Olive and Elinor
share a smile)
Even the butterflies know you like
butterflies.

A butterfly lands next to her butterfly pin. Everyone <SFX:
LAUGHS> as Olive hugs her Mom.

SEGMENT 2.

1. EXT FOREST -- EARLY AUTUMN DAY

It's Fall and the trees have changed color. We open with a
gusty whirl of wind and leaves whooshing through the air in
front of the colorful trees, then see it swirl past Señor
Tapir and the kids. Holding his guitar, Señor Tapir sits on a
tree stump facing the kids, who sit around his feet. As the
cold breeze rushes past, Olive wraps her arms around herself
and shivers.

118 OLIVE 118
Brr. It's getting cold! You can
really feel it.

A monarch butterfly flutters over the kids' heads and lands
on Señor Tapir's head.

119 SEÑOR TAPIR 119
Did you know that butterflies can
also feel the cold? That's how they
know when it's time to fly
somewhere warmer. [pause] Hmm, I
think a song is coming. I can feel
it.

Señor Tapir starts to strum his guitar and sings. After a
few words, we transition to a simpler style of animation that
describes what he is singing.

120 SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D) 120
 (singing)
Meet ~~Professor~~ André Green. He's a
scientist, you see

2. EXT FLOWER GARDEN -- DAY

We see Professor André Green (animal Lion). Green is standing next to a monarch butterfly that's perched on a flower. He's staring at it with excitement.

121 SEÑOR TAPIR 121
And butterflies fill him up with
curiosity.

The butterfly flies up in the sky and heads away with purpose.

122 SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D) 122
Every fall, monarch butterflies
make a long flight,

Green hops into a vehicle (or flaps into the sky) to follow it. We see the landscape pass by.

123 SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D) 123
So they can escape winter's icy
cold bite.

3. EXT CENTRAL CALIFORNIA MONARCH WINTERING SITE -- DAY

The butterfly reaches a Monterey Pine tree full of other monarchs. As Green hops out of his car and watches, the butterfly yawns and settles in happily for a "rest" (diapause).

124	SEÑOR TAPIR	124
	They rest when they reach a nice and warm place, Until it's time to go back to their summertime base.	

Green looks very closely at the resting butterflies. He scratches his chin.

125 SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D) 125
But how do they know
How long they should stay?
Do they follow the birds?...

Green watches a flock of birds fly by, but the butterflies don't stir. He shakes his head.

126 SEÑOR TAPIR (CONT'D) 126
Are they counting the days?

Green squints and looks more closely at the butterflies. He shakes his head.

127 SENOR TAPIR 127
(CHORUS) When you ask a question
and follow it through,
You'll learn something amazing and
new!
So ~~Professor~~ André Green got an
idea to try.
Maybe ~~the~~ TEMPERATURE tells
butterflies when to fly.

Green whips out a thermometer. The thermometer could be color coded or have pictures to show seasonal changes. We see the mercury drop - and maybe a cold gust go by. The monarchs yawn and stir. They fly off. Green watches them go, jumping up and down in a eureka moment.

128 SEÑOR TAPIR 128
They feel the cold! That's how they
know where to be.
Scientist André Green, thanks for
your curiosity!
(CHORUS) When you ask a question
and follow it through,
You'll learn something amazing and
new!

4. EXT FOREST -- EARLY AUTUMN DAY

The kids <SFX: CHEER> as Señor Tapir finishes his song. He stands up, and the butterfly flies away from his head.

129 SEÑOR TAPIR 129
And now it's time for me to go
home.

130 OLIVE 130
Why, Señor Tapir? Are you cold?

131 SEÑOR TAPIR 131
No, it's time for lunch! I can feel
it.

Señor Tapir pats his stomach, which <SFX: GRUMBLES>. Everyone <SFX: LAUGHS>.

END.