

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW134 INTERSTITIAL: MZ. MOLE - THE ATLAS MOTH

Written by

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FOLLOWS: Ep. 168 A MOTH MYSTERY

CURRICULUM: Elinor, Olive and Mz. Mole take a close look at a few interesting moths of the world, including the world's largest moth - the atlas moth - a moth so big it is often mistaken for a bird!

LS8. Begin to understand that there are many different kinds of living things and how they may be the same or different

FIRST DRAFT: April 1, 2020

1. EXT. GARDEN -- SUMMER DAY

Elinor, Ari, Olive and Mz. Mole are walking through the flower garden. Mz. Mole has a flower in her hair. A hummingbird clearwing moth flies past Elinor, Aril, Olive and Mz. Mole and over to a bunch of flowers growing nearby. There is an audible <SFX: Hum> as it passes by.

1 ARI 1
Whoah, what is that?

Angle On - the moth hovers <SFX: Hum> over the flowers just like a hummingbird as it dips its proboscis to drink nectar.

2 ELINOR 2
Is that a... hummingbird?

3	MZ. MOLE	3
	It looks like a hummingbird, but	*
	it's actually a moth!	*

4	ARI	4
	Wow! How can you tell? It's moving	*
	so fast.	*

5	MZ. MOLE	5
	I have a picture of it in this	*
	book, all about moths!	*

Mz. Mole takes out her storybook and opens the front cover. *
CLOSE ON the storybook which shows the hummingbird clearwing *
moth. *

2. THE STORYBOOK

The storybook comes to life in a popup book style of animation. The clearwing moth flutters its wings, so we know it's alive.

6	OLIVE	6	*
	Now it looks like a moth. Look at		*
	its fuzzy antennae.		*

The clearwing moth flies away and the page turns to reveal three moths side by side - a luna moth (green), a rosy maple moth (pink and yellow), and an Io moth (yellow with two large eye spots). The moths each flap their wings a bit so we see they're alive.

7 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 7
Moths come in lots of dazzling *
colors and sizes.

The page turns to reveal a moth that looks just like a brown/dead leaf on a pile of dead brown leaves.

8	MZ. MOLE (V.O.)	8	
	See this moth?		*

9	ARI (V.O.)	9	
	Which moth, Mz. Mole? I just see		*
	some leaves.		*

Suddenly, one of the "leaves" begins to flap its wings, then flies away.

10	ELINOR (V.O.)	10	
	What?! That leaf was a moth!		

11	MZ. MOLE (V.O.)	11	
	And how about this one?		

CLOSE ON a tree trunk and a yellow comet moth with long "tails" flies in and lands on the tree.

12	ELINOR (V.O.)	12	
	Ooh, pretty! Is that a butterfly?		

13	MZ. MOLE (V.O.)	13	
	Good question. Take a closer look.		*

The page turns and reveals a comparison of the comet moth and a tiger swallowtail butterfly. We see them close up from the front so we have a good look at their antennae.

Mz. Mole's finger tip comes into frame to point at the butterfly antennae.

14	MZ. MOLE (V.O.)	14	
	Butterflies have skinny antennae.		*

Elinor's finger comes into frame to point at the moth's antennae.

15	ELINOR (V.O.)	15	
	Oh, and moth's antennae are fuzzy.		*

The page turns to reveal an atlas moth. Mz. Mole's hand comes into frame and the atlas moth climbs onto it. The moth is so large that its wingspan is wider than the hand.

16	MZ. MOLE (V.O.)	16	
	This is an atlas moth, the largest		*
	moth in the world.		*

*

17 ELINOR (V.O.) 17
Whoah, that's huge.

The moth flaps its wings and flies away. We watch it fly through the sky.

18 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 18
The atlas moth is so big. People
sometimes think it's a bird.

19	ELINOR	19	*
	Wow, moths can be as big as birds		*
	and as pretty as butterflies.		*

3. EXT. FLOWER GARDEN -- SUMMER DAY

We watch the book close. Back in the flower garden, Elinor, Ari, Olive and Mz. Mole look around for the hummingbird clearwing moth.

20	MZ. MOLE	20	*
	Now where did that hummingbird moth		*
	go?		*

21	OLIVE	21	*
	There it is!		*

We see the moth is drinking from the flower in Mz. Mole's hair. The children all <SFX: Laugh>

END *