

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW138 Water You Doing?

by Kate Barris

Elinor's Question: Where did the pool of water go?

Logline: Elinor discovers that putting some rocks into a stream can affect where the water flows.

Curriculum Goals:

- SEP1. Asking questions
 - a. Demonstrate curiosity about the greater world outside of their local environment
 - 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 (By asking questions, Elinor and her friends realize they have blocked the stream, and decide to make a small bridge instead).

LS5. Begin to understand that animals and plants depend on other living things and nonliving things in the environment to meet some of their needs. (Elinor and her friends realize the fish needs water in order to survive).

ND1. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Patterns'): Understand that modes of life in the natural world and engineered solutions in the designed world have common patterns, and engineers often look to natural patterns for inspiration. (Elinor gets the idea for the bridge from the ants using the leaf to cross the puddle.)

ND5.(RTL Crosscutting concept 'Cause and Effect'): Appreciate that events are connected to each other via cause and effect, and that similar links can be found in the natural and designed worlds. (Elinor and her friends learn that their actions have an effect on the stream, and on the fish)

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SECOND DRAFT August 7, 2019

1. EXT. THE FOREST - DAY

OPEN ON: ELINOR'S hand sticking up into the frame.

1 ELINOR
Hands up everyone who wants to go
exploring. I do!

ARI's hand comes up beside hers.

2 I do! ARI

OLIVE'S hand comes up between Elinor's and Ari's.

3 Me too! OLIVE

WIDER SHOT: We see them at the edge of the forest.

4 ARI
Where do we start?

Elinor gestures to the area around them.

5 ELINOR
Right here. If we look around I bet
we'll find something interesting.

Olive is looking at the ground.

6 OLIVE
Like these ants? I love ants!
They're so smart.

ANGLE ON: A TRAIL OF ANTS walking along in a line.

7 ARI
I wonder where they're going.

8 ELINOR
Let's follow them and find out.

They crouch down and follow the ants, who march along and arrive at the edge of a BIG PUDDLE.

9 ARI
How are they going to get across?

10 OLIVE
They can't walk on the water.

ANGLE ON: The ants walk along the edge of the puddle, till they get to a leaf that's lying on the puddle.

The first few ants walk on the leaf, but come to the end of it and have to turn around. *

11 ELINOR 11 *

But they **can** walk on a leaf. Only, *

it's not going to get them to the *

other side of the puddle. *

12 ARI 12 *

Poor ants. *

13 OLIVE 13 *

Oh I bet they'll find a way. *

The lead ants go back to the edge of the puddle and continue walking along until they come to a small STICK that arches over the puddle. The first ant climbs up onto the stick and starts to cross the puddle. The other ants follow until they get to the other side of the puddle. *

14 ELINOR 14 *

Look a that. *

15 ARI 15 *

You were right, Olive. They found a *

way. *

16 OLIVE 16 *

Yup. That's ants for you. *

17 ELINOR 17 *

See, we just started exploring and *

already we found something *

interesting. *

18 OLIVE 18 *

So, where should we explore next? *

Elinor points in a direction. *

19 ELINOR 19 *

Let's go this way. *

20 OLIVE 20 *

Okay, but let's pretend to be ants. *

Elinor and Ari look at Olive, puzzled. *

21 ELINOR 21 *

What do you mean? *

Olive points to a series of rocks, stumps and fallen logs ahead in the forest. (**NOTE:** All of them are quite low to the ground, so they aren't dangerous for the kids to walk on.) *

22 OLIVE 22 *

Let's find ways to get through the *

forest without walking on the *

ground. Like this. *

She steps up on a log and puts her arms out to balance. *

23 ELINOR 23 *

Fun! Let's see how long we can go *

without touching the ground. *

Ari flaps his wings and lifts off the ground. *

24 ARI 24 *

Does flying count? *

Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE> and shake their heads. *

25 ELINOR/OLIVE 25 *

Ari!! *

He smiles and returns to the ground. *

26 ARI 26 *

Just kidding. *

Elinor hops onto a fallen log, following Olive. Then Ari does *

the same. They <GIGGLE> and make <WOAH> sounds etc, as they

try to maintain their balance. *

When Olive gets to the end of the log, she looks around for

what to walk on next. She spots a series of rocks and hops

onto the first, then steps onto the next. Elinor and Ari *

follow. *

2. EXT. FISHY POOL - MOMENTS LATER *

Olive hops onto a rock and looks SURPRISED. She stops and *

puts her arms out to maintain her balance. <SFX: WHOOA WALLA> *

Elinor and Ari come up behind and almost bump into her. Then *

they peer around her and see the stream. *

28 ELINOR 28 *

What is it Olive? ... Oh, a stream. *

29 OLIVE 29 *

I guess that's the end of our *

exploring. We can't get to the *

other side. *

Ari flaps his wings again and lifts off the ground. *

	Olive looks hesitant.		*
39	ARI	39	*
	Maybe you could use a long stick to help you jump across?		*
			*
	Ari gets a THOUGHT BUBBLE over his head of OLIVE POLE VAULTING OVER THE STREAM! Olive looks at Ari with surprise.		*
40	OLIVE	40	*
	(giggle) I don't think so, Ari.		*
	His THOUGHT BUBBLE POPS.		*
41	ELINOR	41	*
	We need more ideas.		*
	Olive gets out her notebook and pencil from her backpack. She draws two lines for the two edges of the stream, and some little waves. Then she draws stick figures of the three of them on one side.		*
42	OLIVE	42	*
	Let's see. This is the stream. And this is us on one side.		*
43	ELINOR	43	*
	But we want to be on the other side. What else have we got here?		*
	Elinor and Ari look around. He's standing on a rock		*
44	ARI	44	
	Just rocks.		
	Elinor's face lights up.		
45	ELINOR	45	
	Rocks! That's it!		
46	ARI	46	
	What's it?		
47	ELINOR	47	*
	Remember when we were pretending to be ants, and we walked on things instead of on the ground? What if we put some big rocks in the water?		*
	Olive draws two big rocks in the water, making a walkway.		
48	OLIVE	48	
	Then we could walk on the rocks to get across.		

49 ARI 49
Amazing! Let's do it!

The three of them gather around the rock Ari was on.

50 ELINOR 50
Ready?

51 OLIVE/ARI 51
Ready!

They push the rock, <EFFORT SOUNDS>, causing it to roll toward the stream. Then <PLUNK> it drops into the stream and rolls once, so it's touching the other bank.

52 OLIVE 52
Perfect! Now, just one more rock like that, and we can walk across.

They get behind another big rock, and roll it toward the stream. <EFFORT SOUNDS>. It drops <PLUNK> into the water. One side of the rock is touching the other rock and the other side of the rock is touching the bank in front of them. So they've effectively created a walkway (and a dam). *

53 ELINOR 53
Yay! We built a walkway. *

54 ARI 54
A **rock** walkway. *

55 OLIVE 55
Well, let's **walk** across. *

They hop across on the rocks and land on the other side. Then they high-five each other. *

56 ARI 56
We did it! *

57 ELINOR 57
Now we can keep exploring. *

They all start walking downstream on the other side.

As they leave, the camera moves to the spot where they put the rocks in the water. There's a little water coming between the two rocks, but a significant amount of water is being diverted by the rocks, and is spilling onto to the other bank of the stream. A TWIG floats downstream toward the rocks, but instead of continuing toward the fishy's pool, it flows with the diverted water and lands on the other bank, where a puddle is forming. *

TIME TRANSITION.

4. EXT. THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STREAM - LATER ON

Elinor, Ari and Olive are walking on the far side of the stream, retracing the route they took earlier.

58	ARI	58	
	Wow! It was a great idea to explore on that side.		* *
59	OLIVE	59	
	We saw so many cool things.		
60	ARI	60	* *
	Let's go tell our fishy friend all about it.		
61	ELINOR	61	* *
	We can cross the stream again using the rock walkway we built.		

5. EXT. UPSTREAM NARROWS - MOMENTS LATER

The three arrive at their walkway, but as they get close to it, we hear <SQUISH> and Elinor makes a face.

62	ELINOR	62	* *
	Ew! There's a big puddle here. I don't remember stepping in a puddle when we came across before.		
63	OLIVE	63	
	Maybe we just stepped around it.		
64	ELINOR	64	
	Maybe.		
65	ARI	65	
	Come on! Let's go see fishy.		

They hop across the rocks, not noticing the water.

6. EXT. FISHY POOL - MOMENTS LATER

They run up to the fishy pool, Ari in the lead.

66	ARI	66	
	Hey little fishy. You'll never guess what we ... Huh?		

Elinor and Olive join Ari at the edge of the pool.

67 ELINOR 67
What's the matter, Ari?

ANGLE ON: The water level is lower than it was earlier. The little fishy is still there.

68 ARI 68
There's hardly any water in fishy's pool now. That's not good. *

69 OLIVE 69
There was lots of water before. *
What happened? *

Ari turns and addresses the fish.

70 ARI 70
Did you drink all that water, fishy?

Elinor has a thought.

71 ELINOR 71
Do fish drink water?

Olive has her nature book out. She flips some pages, consults the book, then looks up at Elinor and shakes her head.

72 OLIVE 72
My nature book says only fish who live in the ocean drink water. But this isn't the ocean - it's just a stream. *

73 ELINOR 73
So fishy didn't drink all that water. *

A beat as this sinks in, then Ari smiles, as a THOUGHT BALLOON appears, showing a GIANT WITH A STRAW, SUCKING UP WATER FROM THE STREAM. *

74 ARI 74
Hmmm. But ... Maybe a giant came and drank it all, with a huge straw! *

Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE> and shake their heads. *

75 OLIVE 75
There's gotta be an explanation, and we HAVE to help fishy. *

76	ELINOR	76	
	We need more observations!		
	Ari squats down by the pool and examines the edge. He shows a wet line where the water level was before.		* *
77	ARI	77	
	I observe that the water in fishy's pool used to be this high, and now it's a lot lower.		* * *
78	OLIVE	78	
	It must've gone somewhere .		* *
79	ELINOR	79	
	That's SO interesting. There's less water here in fishy's pool, and there's more water over by our rock walkway.		* * * *
80	OLIVE	80	
	But why?		*
81	ELINOR	81	
	Let's go back there and take a closer look.		* * *

7. EXT. UPSTREAM NARROWS - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Ari and Olive stand on their rock walk. Elinor points the puddle that's formed on that side of the bank.

82	ELINOR	82	
	There's the puddle. But where's the water coming from?		
	They look from the puddle to the water that's flowing around the rocks. A TWIG floats toward the rocks, then swings around into the puddle.		* *
83	OLIVE	83	
	Hey, did you see that twig?		*
84	ELINOR	84	
	What about it?		* *
85	OLIVE	85	
	Here comes another one. Watch what happens.		* * *
	Another twig swings around the rocks into the puddle.		*

86	ARI	86	
	It's going around our rock walkway		*
	and into that puddle.		*
87	OLIVE	87	*
	So the water's making a puddle		*
	here, instead of going down to		*
	fishy's pool.		*
	They look at each other, realizing what they've done.		*
88	ELINOR	88	
	So, when we put the rocks in the		
	stream to get to the other side...		*
	She points downstream to where fishy's pool is.		*
89	ELINOR (CONT'D)	89	
	... we made the water stop going to		*
	fishy's pool.		*
90	OLIVE	90	
	Wow. We never meant for that to		*
	happen.		
91	ARI	91	
	No! We have to fix it, or fishy		*
	might not have any water left to		*
	swim in.		
92	ELINOR	92	
	Okay. Let's pull the rocks back, so		
	the water can go through again.		
	Ari and Olive agree <WALLA>. Ari and Elinor stand on one side		*
	of the stream and work together to pull one rock out. <EFFORT		
	SOUNDS> . The water starts flowing through, but still moves		
	around the other rock, which Olive is standing on.		
93	ARI	93	
	It's working. Can you move the		
	other one away Olive?		
	Olive steps on the other side of the stream. Then she reaches		*
	down and pulls the other rock back. <EFFORT SOUNDS>.		
	The water gushes straight through, like it did when they		
	first got there. Elinor and Ari high five each other.		
94	ELINOR	94	
	Yay! We undid it!		*

95	ARI	95	
	Let's go see if there's more water in fishy's pool.		
96	ELINOR	96	
	Okay. Come on Olive.		
97	OLIVE (O.S.)	97	
	Um ... That might be a problem.		
	They look and see Olive on the other side of the stream.		
98	OLIVE (CONT'D)	98	
	Now that the rock walkway is gone, I can't get across anymore.		*
	Elinor and Ari look at each other.		
99	ELINOR	99	
	There's got to be another way across.		* *
	Elinor looks at the water flowing through and sees another TWIG on the water. She smiles.		*
100	ELINOR (CONT'D)	100	
	And I think I know what it is.		
	A THOUGHT BUBBLE appears of the ants they saw earlier crossing the puddle on the stick.		*
101	ELINOR (CONT'D)	101	
	Remember the ants we saw crossing over the puddle on the stick?		*
	Ari looks skeptical.		
102	ARI	102	
	I don't think Olive could walk on a stick.		*
	Elinor <GIGGLES>.		
103	ELINOR	103	
	No, but maybe we could make a walkway that goes over the stream, without blocking it. Like the ants did.		* *
	Olive gets her notebook, which has the drawing from before.		
104	OLIVE	104	
	I think I know what we could do.		

She points to the rocks on either side of the stream.

105 OLIVE (CONT'D) 105
We have the rocks on the side of
the stream. Maybe we could put
something on **top** of them to make a
bridge. Like this. *

She draws a kind of plank across the stream, using the rocks
as a base. She holds it up and shows it to them.

106 ARI 106
What about the logs we were walking
on before? One of those might work.

107 ELINOR 107
Great idea Ari. Let's go.

As they all sing, Elinor and Ari bring a log to their side of *
the stream. They stand it up and lower it down. On the other
side of the stream, Olive takes the end. On both sides, they *
guide the log so that it sits securely on top of the rock.

8. SONG: WE'LL FIND A WAY *

108 ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE 108
*We'll find a way,
Find a way.
If we try and try again,
We'll find a better way.* *

First we built a wall of rocks *
Because we didn't know
It would stop the stream from going *
Where it used to go. *

We'll find a way, *
Find a way. *
If we try and try again, *
We'll find a better way. *

So we built a little bridge *
That lets the stream go through
Now we go just where we want to
And the stream can too!

We found a way *
Found a way *
We tried and tried again. *
And found a better way! *

The bridge is built and Olive is ready to cross. *

109 ELINOR 109
Come on Olive. Cross the bridge.

She steps tentatively, and then hops across.

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110          OLIVE          110
          It works!

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111                ARI                111
Yay us! Let's go tell fishy.
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They hurry downstream to visit fishy.

9. EXT. FISHY POOL - MOMENTS LATER

Fishy is happily swimming in his pool, which is up to the same level as it was before.

112	ARI	112	
	Hi fishy! We're really sorry we		*
	took water away from your pool.		

113	OLIVE	113	
	We didn't know our rock walkway		*
	would stop the water from going		
	through.		

114	ELINOR	114	
	But we found a better way. We built		*
	a bridge! It's much better than a		*
	wall, because it doesn't stop the		*
	water. Right fishy?		*

Fishy jumps out of the water and splashes back in.

115	ARI	115
	Fishy says "Right!"	

<GIGGLES> *

FADE OUT. *