

# ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP. 139 "Elinor's Circus"

By: Karen Moonah

**Elinor's Question:** *How can we 'stay up' when we're doing our balancing tricks?*

**Logline:** *When Elinor and her friends put on a 'circus', they struggle to master balancing tricks - until they observe how using different body parts can help you balance.*

LS2. Understand that animals have different body parts that are used in different ways to meet their needs. d. Explore how different external features of an animal help it survive in its environment. (Elinor and her friends observe how the squirrel's tail helps him balance).

ND3. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Structure and Function'): 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. (Inspired by the squirrel's tail, Elinor decides to use a long pole to balance in the same way)

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 a new or improved object or tool (engineering). Elinor and her friends ask questions, observe and define their problem (lack of balance) then solve it by using their own bodies (wings, trunk) or by inventing balancing tools.

Mains - Elinor, Ari, Olive, Philbert

Locations: Forest Glade

Props: Top hat, bow, unicycle, helmet, tutu, stilts, streamers, paper flowers, circus posters, balancing branch.

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FIRST DRAFT: July 18, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: Aug. 13, 2019

## 1. INT. A 'BIG TOP' CIRCUS (ELINOR'S THOUGHT BUBBLE/FANTASY)

A <FANFARE> plays, as ELINOR, dressed in a top hat ENTERS to stand in a circus ring, under a spotlight.

|   |                                    |   |   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | ELINOR (GRANDLY)                   | 1 |   |
|   | Ladies and Gentle-animals! Friends |   | * |
|   | of alllll ages! Welcome to the     |   |   |
|   | Animal Town Circus!                |   |   |

The unseen audience in the tent <WHOOPS AND CHEERS>!

|   |                               |   |   |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 2 | ELINOR (CONT'D)               | 2 | * |
|   | Featuring... The Amazing Ari! |   | * |

OS <CALLIOPE MUSIC> plays, as a spotlight finds ARI, wearing a FANCY HELMET with stars and a BOW TIE, wheeling into the ring on a snazzy UNICYCLE. (Note: he doesn't hold out his arms for balance, but since this is Elinor's daydream, he has no trouble staying up.) <SFX: CROWD OOOOH> WALLA

|   |                    |   |   |
|---|--------------------|---|---|
| 3 | ELINOR (CONT'D)    | 3 | * |
|   | Olive the Awesome! |   | * |

Next, OLIVE, wearing a TUTU, strides in confidently, on TOWERING STILTS. <SFX: CROWD AHHHH>

|   |                                |   |   |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 4 | ELINOR (CONT'D)                | 4 | * |
|   | And me... The Extraordinary... |   | * |

Next, we CUT TO Elinor, on the platform of a TIGHT-ROPE. (There's a net.) Without using her arms or a pole to balance, she saunters across the high-wire. <SFX: CROWD CHEERS (and MAYBE CHANTS THE NAME "ELINOR" IF POSSIBLE)>

|   |                        |   |  |
|---|------------------------|---|--|
| 5 | OLIVE (VO)             | 5 |  |
|   | Elinor? <i>Elinor!</i> |   |  |

WIDEN and PAN DOWN to reveal this is all happening in Elinor's THOUGHT BUBBLE daydream.

## 2. EXT. FOREST - DAY

Elinor startles from her daydream. She's standing in a little forest glade which has been decorated for a kid-like circus, with a tent made of streamers, paper flowers, stumps set up as chairs for the audience, and maybe kid-pictures of clowns etc. Elinor's holding a roll of STREAMER PAPER.

|   |        |   |  |
|---|--------|---|--|
| 6 | ELINOR | 6 |  |
|   | Huh?   |   |  |

Olive comes over, smiling.

|   |                                                             |   |   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|
| 7 | OLIVE (CHUCKLING)                                           | 7 |   |
|   | You were dreaming. What do you<br>think of our circus tent? |   | * |

She points up.

CUT WIDE to reveal Ari, just finishing an airy 'ROOF' made of alternating RED AND BLUE PAPER STREAMERS. (These are 'tented' over a high branch, then anchored to low tree branches.)

|   |                                                                |   |   |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|
| 8 | ELINOR                                                         | 8 |   |
|   | Wow, that looks so good! Our circus<br>is going to be AMAZING. |   | * |

|   |                                   |   |   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 9 | OLIVE                             | 9 |   |
|   | I know. I hope everyone loves it. |   | * |

Ari flies back down to join them.

|    |                                                                                                                           |    |  |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|--|
| 10 | ARI                                                                                                                       | 10 |  |
|    | Of course they'll love it.<br>(puffs up, proud)<br>After all, we have a real circus<br>tent and a real circus unicycle... |    |  |

CUT TO a gently used UNICYCLE and HELMET decorated with stars resting nearby.

|    |                                                                 |    |   |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 11 | ARI (CONT'D)                                                    | 11 |   |
|    | And a super-fancy circus helmet...<br>what more could you want? |    | * |

|    |                   |    |  |
|----|-------------------|----|--|
| 12 | ELINOR (TEASING)  | 12 |  |
|    | A unicycle rider? |    |  |

But Ari dismisses her teasing with a wave of his hand.

|    |                                                                     |    |   |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 13 | ARI (UNCONCERNED)                                                   | 13 |   |
|    | I'll be able to ride it by show<br>time. I just need some practice. |    | * |

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  | * |
|--|--|--|---|

Olive picks up a pair of rustic wooden PLAY STILTS.

|    |                                                                                         |    |             |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|
| 14 | OLIVE                                                                                   | 14 |             |
|    | I should practice too. My Dad made<br>me these stilts, and I haven't<br>tried them yet. |    | *<br>*<br>* |

|    |                                                   |    |  |
|----|---------------------------------------------------|----|--|
| 15 | ELINOR                                            | 15 |  |
|    | Okay. And I'll work on my tight-<br>rope walking! |    |  |

She scans around - her gaze settles on a handy FALLEN LOG.

16 ELINOR (CONT'D) 16  
That log should do the trick.

Ari buckles on his helmet, full of excitement.

17 ARI 17  
This is going to be the Greatest  
Show in Animal Town.

Ari grabs his unicycle by the seat, and stands it up.

18 ARI (CONT'D) 18  
Now. How do I get up on this thing?

Elinor and Olive <SFX: GIGGLE>

'WHEEL' WIPE TO:

### 3. EXT. FOREST GLADE - MINUTES LATER

Elinor steps up onto one end of the FALLEN LOG and strikes a confident pose. (This is her 'tight-rope'.)

19 ELINOR (GRAND) 19  
Make way for The Extraordinary  
Elinor, the brave tight-rope  
walker. \*

Elinor takes a deep breath then tries to walk across the log. (NOTE: She does NOT put out her arms for balance.) After three wobbly steps, she loses her balance and hops off.

20 ELINOR (MUTTERS) (CONT'D) 20  
(huff) This is trickier than I  
thought.

21 ARI (OS) 21  
Tell me about it.

CUT TO Ari, who's perched on his low unicycle, awkwardly clutching a small nearby tree for support.

22 ARI (CONT'D) 22  
I can get ON my unicycle and push  
off, but then look what happens -

Ari demonstrates, letting go of a tree and taking a couple of pedal strokes. (He doesn't hold out his wings for balance yet.) But soon, he starts to wobble and tip sideways -

23 ARI (CONT'D) 23  
Whoa!

- and he's obliged to hop off, landing on his feet.

24                               ARI (CONT'D)                               24  
I tip over.

Olive holds a stilt in each hand.

OLIVE

I know what you mean! Watch...

Olive steps up onto the stilts, and shuffles a few steps -

26 OLIVE (CONT'D) 26  
I can go a few steps, but after  
that - whoa!

- but then she loses her balance and has to step off.

27 OLIVE (CONT'D) 27  
I can't stay up.

Elinor comes over to join her friends.

|    |                                          |    |   |
|----|------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 28 | ELINOR                                   | 28 |   |
|    | I know they do this in a real            |    | * |
|    | circus, so there has to be a way.        |    | * |
|    | But how?                                 |    | * |
|    | (curious)                                |    |   |
|    | <i>How do we stay up without falling</i> |    | * |
|    | <i>over?</i>                             |    | * |

Just then -

[illegible]

They turn to see a BOY SQUIRREL bounding over. This is PHILBERT, a sweet, bright-eyed squirrel who tends to 'upspeak' - he makes everything sound like a question.

30 PHILBERT (CONT'D) 30  
I'm Philbert? I just moved here?

31 ELINOR 31  
Hi! I'm Elinor. This is Ari, and  
Olive.

32                   ARI / OLIVE (WAVE)                   32  
Hi. / Nice to meet you!

Philbert looks up at their streamer 'tent', curious.

33 PHILBERT 33  
You too! What'cha doin'?

34 OLIVE 34  
We're putting on a circus! It's  
like a show where we do fun tricks.  
Want to join us? \*

35 PHILBERT (DELIGHTED) 35  
Yeah! Can I watch? I looove  
clapping and cheering, so I'd be  
reeally good at watching? \*

Elinor shares a grin with her friends.

36 ELINOR 36  
That would be awesome. Bu-uut our  
show's not quite ready yet. \*

37 PHILBERT 37  
That's okay. It'll take me a while  
to find the perfect seat, y'know?

Philbert hops up onto one of the LOGS they've gathered placed  
on their ends, like stools. (The stool wobbles, but Philbert  
uses his tail to counterbalance and stays up.) \*

38 ELINOR 38  
Sit anywhere you like! We'd better  
\_get back to practicing. \*

Elinor heads back to her log, and hops up onto the end. She  
tries to walk across, but after a few steps, the same thing  
happens - she wobbles and steps off.

39 ELINOR (CONT'D) 39  
Whoops!

40 PHILBERT (PART OS) 40  
Yeah! Go, Elinor!

The other three look over at Philbert, puzzled.

41 PHILBERT (SHEEPISH) (CONT'D) 41  
Heh. I'm practicing my cheering?  
Yaaay! \*

He mimes 'cheering'. The others <SFX: GIGGLE>

Philbert wobbles on his stool.

42 PHILBERT (CONT'D) 42  
I'm gonna try another seat.

He scurries OS to find a better one.

Meanwhile, Elinor tries again to cross her log - same result.

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    |   |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 43 | ELINOR                                                                                                                                                                                               | 43 |   |
|    | Oof. Why do I keep falling off?                                                                                                                                                                      |    | * |
|    | Olive gets an idea.                                                                                                                                                                                  |    | * |
| 44 | OLIVE                                                                                                                                                                                                | 44 |   |
|    | Wait! I have something that can help.                                                                                                                                                                |    | * |
|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    | * |
|    | Olive eagerly goes under the play structure to get a TOTE BAG. From it, she takes out a POLKA-DOT BOW for Ari, a TOP HAT for Elinor, and a TUTU for herself (same as in the opening THOUGHT BUBBLE). |    | * |
| 45 | OLIVE (CONT'D)                                                                                                                                                                                       | 45 |   |
|    | Costumes! Maybe if we look like we're part of a circus, we'll be able to do the tricks better.                                                                                                       |    | * |
|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    | * |
|    | Ari checks out his oversized bow.                                                                                                                                                                    |    | * |
| 46 | ARI                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 46 |   |
|    | Awesome!                                                                                                                                                                                             |    | * |
|    | We CUT AWAY to Philbert, while they put on their accessories.                                                                                                                                        |    |   |
| 47 | PHILBERT                                                                                                                                                                                             | 47 |   |
|    | Ooh niiice! That makes you guys look really um, circus-y?                                                                                                                                            |    |   |
|    | BACK ON Elinor, Olive and Ari, now wearing their costumes.                                                                                                                                           |    |   |
| 48 | OLIVE                                                                                                                                                                                                | 48 |   |
|    | I <i>feel</i> circusy.                                                                                                                                                                               |    |   |
| 49 | ELINOR                                                                                                                                                                                               | 49 |   |
|    | Ok, now we look like we're part of a circus. Maybe that'll help us?                                                                                                                                  |    | * |
|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    | * |
| 50 | ARI                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 50 |   |
|    | Only one way to find out!                                                                                                                                                                            |    |   |
|    | Ari picks up his unicycle, and goes back to the tree to help himself get up on it.                                                                                                                   |    |   |
| 51 | ARI (CONT'D)                                                                                                                                                                                         | 51 |   |
|    | (exhale) Okay. Here goes!                                                                                                                                                                            |    |   |
|    | He pushes off, wobbling as he pedals. He lasts a tiny little bit longer than before, but he still topples over!                                                                                      |    | * |
|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    | * |
| 52 | ARI (CONT'D)                                                                                                                                                                                         | 52 |   |
|    | I'm doing it, I'm doing it! Oof.                                                                                                                                                                     |    |   |

He lands (safely but somewhat comically) on the ground. \*

CUT TO Philbert, who has moved to a swaying TREE BRANCH, near/above Elinor's log. (Using his tail to counter-balance as he sways, as squirrels do. But no one notices, yet.)

53 PHILBERT 53 \*  
Aww, nice try, Ari! \*

54 ARI 54 \*  
Nope, still not doing it. \*

Elinor helps him up. \*

55 OLIVE 55 \*  
Let me try. \*

Olive fixes her tutu and jumps up on her stilts again. She wobbles for a bit, looking like maybe she's going to stay up, but then she has to step down again. \*

56 OLIVE (CONT'D) 56 \*  
Whoa - oof! Sigh... \*

Elinor tries next. She shimmies a little bit across the log, but falls off after a few steps. \*

57 ELINOR (TO HERSELF) 57 \*  
Hmm, the costumes didn't really help us stay up. \*

58 ARI 58 \*  
We look really cool, though. \*

59 OLIVE 59 \*  
What else can we try? \*

Philbert also looks perplexed. Just then, a single streamer from their 'tent' comes untied from the tree. \*

60 ARI 60  
Whoops! A streamer came untied.

He starts over to pick up the end of the streamer, but speedy Philbert gets there first.

61 PHILBERT 61 \*  
I'll do it! I can help! \*

Philbert grabs the end of the streamer and carries it up to the tree to re-tie it.

Just then, Elinor notices something.

FRONT ANGLE (HEAD ON) - Philbert confidently skips over  
several of the log seats, hops up a few low hanging branches,  
and walks across the main branch with the streamer, in a way  
that echoes what they're all trying to do for the circus.  
Only Philbert has no trouble 'staying up'.

62 ELINOR 62  
Wait a second! Philbert, how'd you  
do that?

Philbert finishes his knot, then turns proudly to Elinor.

63 PHILBERT 63  
Do what - tie a knot? Easy! I was a  
squirrel scout.

64 ELINOR 64  
No, I mean how did you skip over  
and walk across the branch like  
that, without tipping over?

Philbert looks down - he hadn't noticed.

65 PHILBERT 65  
Oh, that. It's something that  
squirrels do? To keep from falling  
over? My Mom calls it balancing.

66 OLIVE (NODDING) 66  
Balance! I've heard that word.

67 ELINOR 67  
How do you do it?

68 PHILBERT (SHRUGS) 68  
Well, I just keep the same amount  
of my body on both sides of  
whatever I'm trying to stay on.

Philbert leans out to the left and his big tail waves out to  
the right to counter-balance him.

69 PHILBERT (CONT'D) 69  
If my top goes one way, I just  
stick my big tail out the other  
way. To make it the same, see? Or  
if my tail goes this way, I just  
stick my body or my arms out the  
other way.

Elinor nods, absorbing this.

70 ELINOR 70  
Ohhhh.

|    |                                                                                                                                             |    |   |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 71 | OLIVE                                                                                                                                       | 71 | * |
|    | Wow, Philbert, that is so cool.                                                                                                             |    | * |
| 72 | ELINOR                                                                                                                                      | 72 | * |
|    | It <i>is</i> cool! Maybe it's something we can try for our circus tricks!                                                                   |    | * |
| 73 | ARI                                                                                                                                         | 73 | * |
|    | But... I don't have a tail like Philbert does.                                                                                              |    | * |
| 74 | PHILBERT                                                                                                                                    | 74 | * |
|    | No, but you have your wings? You could try that?                                                                                            |    | * |
|    | Ari considers it, then shrugs. He picks up his unicycle, and goes back to the tree to help himself get up on it.                            |    | * |
| 75 | ARI                                                                                                                                         | 75 | * |
|    | (exhale) Okay. Here goes!                                                                                                                   |    | * |
|    | He pushes off, wobbling as he pedals. He's holding on, but it looks like he's tipping right!                                                |    | * |
| 76 | ELINOR                                                                                                                                      | 76 | * |
|    | Ari! Put your wing out the other side!                                                                                                      |    | * |
| 77 | ARI                                                                                                                                         | 77 | * |
|    | Whoa!                                                                                                                                       |    | * |
|    | Ari reaches out with his wing and leans to the left, and stays up.                                                                          |    | * |
| 78 | ARI (CONT'D)                                                                                                                                | 78 | * |
|    | Whew! It worked! I thought I was going to fall.                                                                                             |    | * |
| 79 | OLIVE                                                                                                                                       | 79 | * |
|    | But you didn't!                                                                                                                             |    | * |
|    | Ari sticks both his wings out and manages to balance on the unicycle (albeit still a little wobbly). ANGLE ON Elinor, looking very curious. |    | * |
| 80 | ELINOR                                                                                                                                      | 80 | * |
|    | Yeah, you were tipping one way, but then you put your wing out the other way... and you stayed up. That's SO interesting!                   |    | * |
|    | Ari hops off his unicycle, delighted. His friends congratulate him over <SFX: YAY! WOO HOO! WALLA>.                                         |    | * |

|    |                                                               |    |   |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 81 | OLIVE                                                         | 81 |   |
|    | I want to try it now. Maybe I can                             |    | * |
|    | use my <i>trunk</i> to balance?                               |    | * |
|    | Olive picks up her play stilts. She steps up on her stilts    |    | * |
|    | and shuffles along beside the trees until she starts to sway. |    | * |
| 82 | OLIVE (CONT'D)                                                | 82 | * |
|    | Whoa -                                                        |    | * |
|    | She starts to tip over backwards.                             |    | * |
| 83 | ELINOR (CALLS)                                                | 83 | * |
|    | Olive, move your trunk forward!                               |    | * |
|    | Olive uses her trunk to reach forward, which shifts her       |    | * |
|    | weight and stops her from falling over.                       |    | * |
| 84 | OLIVE (SURPRISED)                                             | 84 | * |
|    | (gasp) I didn't fall.                                         |    | * |
| 85 | ELINOR                                                        | 85 | * |
|    | It worked!                                                    |    | * |
|    | Olive finds her balance: still a bit wobbly, she uses her     |    | * |
|    | trunk to balance on the stilts. After a beat, she steps down  |    | * |
|    | from her stilts, pleasantly surprised. Elinor comes closer.   |    | * |
| 86 | OLIVE                                                         | 86 | * |
|    | I just reached out the other way                              |    | * |
|    | with my trunk, and I stayed up.                               |    | * |
| 87 | ARI                                                           | 87 | * |
|    | That was so cool!                                             |    | * |
| 88 | OLIVE (PLEASED)                                               | 88 | * |
|    | Maybe this stilt-walking thing                                |    | * |
|    | isn't so hard after all? Thanks,                              |    | * |
|    | Philbert!                                                     |    | * |
| 89 | PHILBERT                                                      | 89 | * |
|    | Of course? You guys are so good at                            |    | * |
|    | this.                                                         |    | * |
|    | Now, it's Elinor's turn.                                      |    | * |
| 90 | ELINOR (TO HERSELF)                                           | 90 | * |
|    | Well, I don't have wings. And I                               |    | * |
|    | don't have a trunk. But I am The                              |    | * |
|    | Extraordinary Elinor, and <i>I will do</i>                    |    | * |
|    | <i>this</i> .                                                 |    | * |

Determined, Elinor turns and marches back to her 'tight-rope' log. Philbert scampers to a new perch on the branch of a closer tree, to watch her. \*

91 ELINOR (CONT'D) 91 \*  
 Hmm, I DO have my arms... and \*  
 ears... I'll try that! \*

Elinor holds both her arms and ears out horizontally, then carefully starts to walk across. This time she gets further!

92 ELINOR (CONT'D) 92  
 It's working! Whoa...

- she wobbles and steps off. She chuckles.

93 ELINOR (CONT'D) 93 \*  
 Well it *helps*, anyway. I wish my \*  
 arms and ears were longer. I bet \*  
 that would be even easier. \*

CUT TO Olive, as a THOUGHT BUBBLE forms above her. She pictures Elinor holding out comically long arms and ears.

94 OLIVE 94  
 (chuckle) It would be *funnier*.

95 ELINOR 95 \*  
 (laugh) Yeah. I wonder how I can \*  
 get longer arms? Hmm...

Getting an idea, Elinor goes into the bushes, <RUSTLES> around for a moment, then comes up with a LONG, STURDY, LEAFLESS BRANCH. \*

96 ELINOR (CONT'D) 96  
 Like this! Maybe this'll help?

Elinor hops up on her log, holding her branch horizontally like a proper balance pole. She already looks more secure.

97 ELINOR (CONT'D) 97  
 Drum roll, please!

Using two sticks, Ari <'DRUM ROLLS'> on one end of her log.

ON Elinor as she takes a deep breath, and starts to walk. She wobbles - but uses her stick to counter balance, and recovers. Finally... she makes it all the way across!

|     |                                     |     |   |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|---|
| 98  | ELINOR (CONT'D)                     | 98  |   |
|     | I did it! I really did it! I felt I |     | * |
|     | was falling one way, so I moved the |     | * |
|     | stick the other way, and I didn't   |     | * |
|     | fall.                               |     | * |
| 99  | OLIVE                               | 99  | * |
|     | You balanced!                       |     | * |
| 100 | ELINOR                              | 100 | * |
|     | We all balanced!                    |     | * |

Philbert leans over to whisper in Ari's ear. Ari laughs.

|     |                        |     |  |
|-----|------------------------|-----|--|
| 101 | ARI                    | 101 |  |
|     | Yup. NOW we can cheer. |     |  |
| 102 | PHILBERT / OLIVE / ARI | 102 |  |
|     | (cheering for Elinor)  |     |  |

WIPE TO:

**5. EXT. FOREST GLADE - DAY (MINUTES LATER)**

MINUTES LATER - A beaming Elinor has a paper MEGAPHONE in hand. She addresses a 'crowd' of a FEW LOCAL KIDS who have joined Philbert on the log stools to watch the show.

|     |                                  |     |   |
|-----|----------------------------------|-----|---|
| 103 | ELINOR                           | 103 |   |
|     | Ladieees and Gentle-animals! Let |     | * |
|     | the Greatest Show in Animal Town |     |   |
|     | BEGIN!                           |     |   |

<MUSIC UP> - as the performers launch into a circus act showcasing the art - and science - of keeping your balance!

SONG - "YOU CAN BALANCE IF YOU TRY"

First Elinor gestures to Ari, riding his unicycle. He holds his wings out 'wide' for balance as he cycles TOWARDS CAMERA.

|     |                                           |     |   |
|-----|-------------------------------------------|-----|---|
| 104 | ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI (SING)               | 104 |   |
|     | <i>To not fall down when you ride</i>     |     | * |
|     | <i>Just stay even on every side</i>       |     | * |
|     | <i>It's easier if you spread out wide</i> |     |   |
|     | <i>You can balance if you try</i>         |     |   |

Now Elinor 'presents' Philbert, back on the wobbly log stool. (As they sing, Philbert sways side to side, clearly using his 'fluffy tail' to counterbalance.)

*A big long tail will help a lot  
to keep you balanced on a spot  
(MORE)*

ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI (SING) (CONT'D)  
*Just put it over where you're not*  
*You can balance if you try*

\*

Elinor picks up her long stick and holds it horizontally.  
 (Olive enters, stilt-walking, for the second line.)

*A good long stick can help you out*  
 (just OLIVE, joking)  
*I like to use my nice, long snout*  
 (ALL)  
*Staying up is what it's all about*  
*You can balance if you try*

CUT TO Elinor's log, as Elinor runs INTO FRAME and leaps up  
 on one end, holding her balance pole.

\*

*Just practice hard, and there's no*  
*doubt...*

To a <DRUM BEAT>, Elinor crosses the log with a strut in her  
 step - and makes it all the way!

*You can balance if you try!*

END SONG. The audience jumps to its feet! <SFX: CHEERING!>

WIDE as Elinor, Olive and Ari regroup in the centre of their  
 'Big Top'. Elinor beckons to Philbert.

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ELINOR  
 Philbert, we couldn't have done it  
 without you, come take a bow!

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\*

Philbert brightens, and scurries over to join hands with his  
 new friends. As they all take a dramatic and well-deserved  
 bow, we...

FADE OUT.