

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 150 To Bee or Not to Bee

By: Michael Foulke

Elinor's Question: Why do bees want to sting me?

Logline: While on a picnic, Elinor tries to help her friend Koa get over his fear of bees.

Curriculum Goals:

LS2. Understand that animals have different body parts that are used in different ways to meet their needs, and that plants have different parts that help them survive and grow: a. Identify body parts of animals and their function

LS8: Begin to understand that there are many different kinds of living things and how they may be the same or different: a. Observe and describe similarities and differences across different types of plants and animals

SEP4: Analyzing and interpreting data a. Collect, describe, and record observations in greater detail and in various ways b. Use the 5 senses and simple tools to gather and record data c. Record observations to describe patterns and/or relationships in the natural and designed world(s) in order to answer scientific questions and solve problems. d. Talk about and reflect on what happened during an investigation or when solving a problem, and why it might have happened

MAINS: Elinor, Ari, Olive, Koa

LOCATIONS: Forest

PROPS: Magnifying Glass, Picnic Basket, Picnic Blanket, Food

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ELINOR and ARI carry a picnic basket and a picnic blanket as they look on, hopeful.

We then see OLIVE sitting on the ground, testing it out.

Koa points O.S. and the kids turn to see a beautiful shady spot in the grass surrounded by flowers.

10 OLIVE 10
Exactly like that! Comfy, shady and
surrounded by pretty flowers! Koa,
you're a genius!

11 KOA 11
(matter-of-fact)
Totally.

12 ARI 12
Alright! I'm hungry! Let's set this
picnic up!

Ari unfolds the blanket and whips it through the air,
covering the screen as we use the blanket to:

WIPE TO:

2. EXT. FIELD -- DAY

The kids are now enjoying their picnic, which has lots of
yummy snacks that the kids are enjoying. Just as Koa takes a
big bite from his honey and jam sandwich, Elinor asks:

13 ELINOR 13
So what do you think of the picnic,
Koa?

Koa responds, but his mouth is full and Elinor and Olive have
no idea what he's saying.

14 KOA 14
(unintelligible)

Suddenly, Ari pops into frame.

15 ARI 15
He said he loves it.
(off their look, shrugs)
I speak mouth full.

Koa continues to speak and Ari acts as his interpreter.

16 KOA 16
(unintelligible)

17 ARI 17
And he also loves his sandwich
because it tastes...

Koa then finishes up his bite with a <GULP> and talks.

18 KOA 18
Awesome!

As Elinor and Olive talk, a few honeybees start to fly around Koa, which makes him very nervous. He quickly gets up.

19 ELINOR 19
That's great, Koa!

20 OLIVE 20
It looks like our picnic is a--

Suddenly, Koa plops down right in between Olive and Elinor, squishing them.

21 OLIVE (CONT'D) 21
Success? You okay, Koa?

22 KOA 22
Yeah, totally. I'm just feeling a lot of friendship on this blanket right now.

As Elinor speaks, the honeybees come back and SFX: BUZZ around Koa, who gets nervous again.

23 ELINOR 23
Aww, me too. I'm so--

Koa once again gets up and moves away quickly. Elinor and Olive just look at each other, confused.

The next few beats is silent, except for the SFX: BUZZ of the bees as the kids follow Koa around the blanket with their eyes as he gets up, moves, sits down, then immediately repeats that action several times as the bees chase him.

All the while, Elinor, Olive and Ari follow his movements, their heads moving side to side.

24 OLIVE 24
Are you sure you're okay?

25 KOA 25
Oh, yeah. I'm just, you know, trying to get comfy.

Koa looks around and sees no bees, <SIGHING> in relief.

26 KOA (CONT'D) 26
Ah, that's better.

Suddenly, a bee lands on Koa's arm and he FREAKS OUT, jumping up and swatting at the bee! <SFX: ALARMED WALLA WAAAH>

27 ELINOR 27
Koa! It's okay! It's just a...

28 KOA 28
Bee! Bee! Bee!

Koa runs around the blanket, swatting like crazy at the bees, who then in turn start to SFX: BUZZ around all the kids.

29 ARI 29
Now it's after me!

30 OLIVE 30
Me too!

31 ARI 31
Elinor, why do the bees want to sting us?

By now, all of the kids have gotten up off the blanket.

32 ELINOR 32
I don't know. Let's just move our blanket to a new, bee-free spot!

33 KOA 33
Good idea!

Koa runs through screen, carrying the blanket as Ari points to a shady spot under a tree.

34 ARI 34
There's a good spot. Under that tree.

DISSOLVE TO:

3. EXT. FOREST -- DAY

The kids are once again enjoying their snacks under the shady tree as a relaxed Koa pops another big bite of his sandwich.

35 OLIVE 35
This is better. No bees here.

36 ELINOR 36
Yep, but bees usually just fly around doing bee stuff. What were you so worried about, Koa?

Koa gets very animated at that question, but once again, his mouth is full and his words are <UNINTELLIGIBLE>. Elinor and Olive look to Ari, who snaps into action.

37 ARI 37
Oh. He's saying, "Bees sting you!"

38 OLIVE 38
Sometimes I guess, but not very
often.

As Koa speaks, he hears an SFX: BUZZ and pauses to look
around, but there's nothing there.

39 KOA 39
But they could. I don't want to get
stung! I mean bee stings... sting!

40 ARI 40
Oh, that must be where they get
their name.

41 ELINOR 41
I know my cousin can get really
sick if he gets stung by a bee. He
has to carry around special
medicine because he's... allergic
to them. Are you allergic too, Koa?

Koa hears the SFX: BUZZ again, but still nothing.

42 KOA 42
Uh... no. I'm not allergic. I just
don't like...

A bee lands on Koa and he jumps up again, just as before.

43 KOA (CONT'D) 43
BEES!!!

As Koa yells and swats his arms, several more bees come and
buzz around the other kids, causing them to get up and move.
Ari runs through with a sandwich in his hand.

44 ARI 44
Let's take this picnic to go!

The kids grab what they can and run off behind a nearby
clearing. Once the bees have dissipated, they look back at
their abandoned picnic site.

45 OLIVE 45
I don't know what happened. We've
never had so many bees at our
picnic before. Where did they all
come from?

46 ARI 46
Yeah, and why do these bees want to
sting us?

Elinor watches as the bees fly up above their picnic site,
near the tree branches.

47 ELINOR 47
I'm not sure, but I think the
answer might be in that tree. We
need more observations!

4. EXT. FOREST -- MOMENTS LATER

We are close on the tree at their picnic site as a few bees
buzz around. A beat later, Elinor head pokes out from behind
a tree, followed by Olive, then Ari.

48 ELINOR 48
Where's Koa?

They all look back to reveal Koa hiding behind a bush quite
far away. He waves to the group.

49 KOA 49
(yelling out)
It's all good. I can see from here.

At that moment, a bee SFX: BUZZES right by the kids and they
watch it fly up towards the top of the tree. A beat later,
another bee flies up, then another.

50 ARI 50
Where are all these bees going?

Ari looks up, only to get SFX: SPLATTED by a big goop of
honey, right on his face. A startled Ari licks the goop and
smiles.

51 ARI (CONT'D) 51
Honey fell out of the sky! It's
raining sweetness! Dreams can come
true!

Olive and Elinor look up at the top of the tree.

52 ELINOR 52
Honey fell, all right, but not out
of the sky. It fell out of that bee
hive.

53 OLIVE 53
That's why there's so many bees
around. They live here!

54 ELINOR 54
That explains why there were so
many bees in this place, but what
about our first picnic. Hmm...

5. EXT. FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

ECU on a beautiful flower as a bee lands on it. As we pull back, we see a GIANT EYEBALL watching the bee. As we pull out even further, we see it's Elinor eye, made bigger by her magnifying glass, which she uses to watch the bee.

As the kids back away, we see several more bees flying around the flowers as well, going to and fro.

55 ELINOR 55
It was the flowers. Bees love
flowers.

56 ARI 56
They gotta drink that sweet, sweet
nectar.

57 OLIVE 57
Sure, the bees were here for the
flowers, but why were they acting
so funny around us today?

58 ARI 58
Maybe they drank too much nectar.
Mom says I go a little kookoo if I
drink too much juice.

59 ELINOR 59
Maybe, but I think we need more
observations!
(then, calling out)
Come on, Koa.

Koa's head peeks out from a bush very far away.

60 KOA 60
No, I'm cool right here, thanks

61 OLIVE 61
Uh-oh. If we don't figure out
what's going on with these bees,
Koa may never join our picnic
again.

Another bee SFX: BUZZES by the kids and they run after it.

62 ELINOR 62
Then let's get to work!

6. EXT. FOREST - DAY

We are once again very close on a bee through Elinor's magnifying glass as it pollinates a flower.

63 ELINOR (O.S.) 63
(whispers)
I don't think this bee wants to
sting us.

We when see Elinor and Olive laying down on their stomachs on the ground, looking at the bee, as they <WHISPER>.

64 OLIVE 64
Yeah. It just looks like a normal
bee doing... bee stuff.

65 ELINOR 65
Whatever was making the bees act so
funny before, they aren't doing it
now.

Suddenly, an excited Ari jumps into frame, looming big and tall over Elinor, Olive and the Bee like a giant monster. Not expecting this, Elinor and Olive <GASP>, then <LAUGH>!

66 ARI 66
Soo, what did you find?

67 ELINOR 67
Ari, you scared us!

68 OLIVE 68
Yeah! From down here you almost
look like a big, giant monster.

69 ARI 69
A giant monster? Cool!
 (then, as a monster)
I am the unstoppable Ari! Rarr!

Ari stomps around like Godzilla as he, Olive and Elinor <LAUGH>. Hearing all of the excitement, Koa then runs over.

70 KOA 70
Hey, what are you--
(then, seeing the bee)
Ahh! More bees!!!

A nervous Koa swats at the bee. Elinor has a front row seat as the bee quickly BUZZES around the flower.

We then see from Elinor's magnifying glass POV as the little bee is in the foreground and a seemingly giant Koa is in the background, swatting at the bee, who BUZZES for his life!

As Koa swings, he knocks some petals off the flower like Godzilla destroying a building.

At this point, the frantic bee even starts buzzing around Elinor and a lightbulb goes off for her.

71	ELINOR	71
	That's it!	
	(to Koa)	
	Koa, wait! Don't swat at the bee!	

72 KOA 72
But... I want it to go away.

73 ELINOR 73
And it will, if you stay calm. Just
watch.

Koa finally stops and, a beat later, the bee BUZZES away, no harm done.

74 OLIVE 74
See? Everything's fine.

75 KOA 75
Whoa! Elinor, how did you figure
that out?

Elinor stands up triumphantly.

76 ELINOR 76
I just tried to think like a bee.

Suddenly, a thought bubble appears above Elinor, putting a visual to her explanation.

77 ELINOR (CONT'D) 77
At our picnic, the bees were just
buzzing around like always until
Koa started swatting at them. After
that...

ARI

78 They started to fly at us. 78

The thought bubble continues.

79 ELINOR 79
That's right, Ari. Which is just
like what happened right now. That
bee on the flower was just fine...

80 OLIVE 80
(getting it)
Until Koa started swatting at it.
Then it started flying at him.

The thought bubble pops as we're back on just the kids.

81 KOA 81
Totally! Because the bees want to
sting me!

82 ELINOR 82
Yes, but only because they're
afraid of you.

83 KOA 83
Afraid of me? Why? I don't sting!
They sting!

84 ELINOR 84
You don't sting, but bees are
really tiny and to them, you're
like a super giant monster!

Getting it, Ari starts to impersonate a monster again,
stomping around.

85 ARI 85
Just like me! Rarr!
(off Koa's confused look)
You had to be there.

Curious, Olive pulls out her nature book and flips through
the pages until she stops on a page with a bee on it.

86 OLIVE 86
I think you're right, Elinor. It
says in my nature book that
honeybees usually only sting people
when they are scared of something.

Elinor and Ari slap high five.

87 ELINOR 87
I knew it!

88 KOA 88
The bees are scared of me? But...
I'm scared of them.

89 OLIVE 89
You know what else, it says that
stinging actually hurts the bees
more than it hurts you, so they
only do it when they feel like they
have no other choice.

90 ELINOR 90
Like when a big, giant monster is
swatting at them!

Suddenly, Koa is lost in thought, looking off at something in
the distance. As we pull back, we see he's staring at a bee.
He then approaches the bee on a nearby flower.

We go close as Koa's (comparatively) huge head enters frame
next to a tiny bee on a flower. At this point, they're both
calm.

91 KOA 91
I'm sorry for scaring you, little
bee bro. I just didn't want to get
stung, just like you don't want to
get swatted. I totally get it now.

Suddenly, the bee SFX: BUZZES off the flower... and right
onto Koa's nose! The kids all <GASP>, but this time, Koa
remains calm.

92 KOA (CONT'D) 92
Whoa, I got a bee... on my nose...

93 ELINOR 93
Remember, bees don't want to sting
you unless you scare them.

94 KOA 94
(deep breath)
Right, so I'm just gonna... relax?
I guess?

The kids all watch with baited breath as the bees walks
around a bit, checking out Koa, then just BUZZES away with no
sting. As the bees flies off, Koa exhales in relief.

95 KOA (CONT'D) 95
Phew!

96 ELINOR 96
Koa, that was great. You kept calm
and the bee left you alone.

97 OLIVE 97
And the most important thing is,
you didn't get scared.

98 KOA 98
No, I was super scared, but I
stayed chill because I didn't want
to scare the bee!

99 ARI 99
Whoa. Cool. Very cool.

The music rises begins to sing.

100 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 100
*ELINOR: Sometimes bees can give you
a sting,
And that is not a very fun thing
But just think how they must feel,
Bees are so tiny, you could squish
'em with your heel!*

*OLIVE: Bees can sure be helpful
And pollinate the flowers.*

*ARI: And don't forget that they
make honey
Which takes them hours and hours!*

*ELINOR
Sometimes bees can give you a sting
And that is not a very fun thing
But just think how they must feel
Bees are so tiny, you could squish
'em with your heel!*

*ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI: But...
We can live together
If we remember just one thing.
When a bee is around, just stay
calm
And you probably won't get a sting!*

As the music fades and the song ends, we:

CUT TO:

7. EXT. FOREST -- DAY

The kids are once again on their picnic blanket, finishing up
their lunch.

101 ELINOR 101
Now this is what I call a picnic!
Yummy food and not a bee in sight.

102 KOA 102
Yeah, thanks everybody. Not only
for the tasty honey and jam
sandwich, but also for helping me
not be scared of...

Suddenly, two bees fly in.

103 ARI 103
Bees!

The kids all watch, worried, as both bees land right on Koa's
honey and jam sandwich and inspect it. However, rather than
be scared, Koa watches them calmly.

104 OLIVE 104
You okay, Koa?

105 KOA 105
Totally. These bees made this yummy
honey, so they should get to have
some too.

We then super close on the bees, with Koa's giant head behind
them, once again emphasizing their difference in size.

106 KOA (CONT'D) 106
Eat up, little bee bros! This is a
safe place for munching. Some for
you...

After a beat, the bees fly away and Koa eats the rest of his
sandwich in one bite, then says something <UNINTELLIGIBLE>.

107 KOA (CONT'D) 107
(unintelligible)

108 ARI 108
He said, 'and some for me.'

109 ELINOR 109
That one we could understand.

The kids <LAUGH> as they continue to enjoy their picnic, and
we:

FADE OUT.