

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW154: LEAF CHARMS

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Elinor's Question: Are all leaves the same shape?

Logline: Elinor and Camilla learn to appreciate all the charming shapes of leaves.

Curriculum Goals:

LS6. Understand that individuals of the same kind of plant or animal are recognizable as similar but can also vary in many ways:

a. Contrast individuals of the same kinds of plant and animal [they compare leaves]

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. [the leaves inspire the charms]

FIRST DRAFT: Nov. 21, 2019
SECOND DRAFT: Dec. 16, 2019

1. EXT. FOREST -- DAY

It's a beautiful early spring day, and ELINOR and her mom, RANGER RABBIT, are walking through the forest. Ranger Rabbit is carrying a set of rolled up blueprints.

Elinor is zigging and zagging here and there, curiously looking at things.

1 ELINOR 1
Oooh, look at this bug, Mom. It has *
big horns on its head! *

She runs up to a rock on the side of the path and looks closer at a rhinoceros beetle. The beetle pauses its lazy walk, then continues on. Elinor looks up and sees something else on the other side. [Pincushion flower, *Leucospermum cordifolium*] She runs across.

2 ELINOR (CONT'D) 2
And this flower is so cool. It has *
so many petals. Isn't it *
interesting?

She checks out an interesting-looking flower. Ranger Rabbit walks up and checks it out herself.

3 RANGER RABBIT 3
Huh. That IS an interesting flower,
Elinor.

Elinor gets up and continues her exploring, <SFX: GIGGLING>.

4 ELINOR 4
I just love exploring. I always
find something new! *

Ranger Rabbit smiles. *

5 RANGER RABBIT 5

Exploring *is* a lot of fun, but we
should get going or we'll be late.

Elinor stops and looks puzzled.

6 ELINOR 6
Where are we going again, Mom?

7 RANGER RABBIT 7

To Camilla's house. I need to speak
with her parents about the plans *
for a new forest trail, and you two *
can play together.

Elinor looks excited.

8	ELINOR	8
	Oh yeah. (realizes) I've never been to Camilla's house before. I wonder what we're going to play?	

9	RANGER RABBIT	9
	I'm sure you'll find lots of ways to have fun.	

Elinor has an idea.

10	ELINOR	10
	I know exactly what Camilla and I can play.	

11	RANGER RABBIT	11
	Let me guess... exploring?	

12	ELINOR	12
	Yes! It's so much fun. Wheeeee!	

Elinor runs up ahead, arms out like an airplane, curving here and there with excitement.

2. EXT. CAMILLA'S HOUSE - DAY

Elinor and her mom approach Camilla's house. It's a little different than most houses in Animal Town in that it's larger and a bit fancier. Elinor spots something on the ground.

13	ELINOR	13
	What's this?	

Elinor crouches down and notices an unusual leaf on the ground. (Ginkgo: <https://images.fineartamerica.com/images-medium-large-5/ginkgo-leaf-gustoimagesscience-photo-library.jpg>).

14	ELINOR (CONT'D)	14	
	Oohhh! What an interesting leaf. It looks like a little fan!		* *

Ranger Rabbit reaches the front steps, then turns around to call Elinor.

15	RANGER RABBIT	15
	C'mon Elinor, we're here.	

Elinor puts the leaf back down and scampers to catch up with her mom.

Ranger Rabbit approaches the house and we see Camilla's
parents on the porch, relaxing on some chairs around a small
patio table. *

16 MS. SANDY DROMEDARY 16
Ranger Rabbit! Elinor! Welcome!
Come and join us on the porch. *

3. EXT CAMILLA'S HOUSE PORCH *

Ranger Rabbit and Elinor join them on the porch. Camilla's
two parents MS. SANDY DROMEDARY and MS. DESY DROMEDARY are
there to greet them. *

17 RANGER RABBIT 17
Hi, Ms. Dromedary. Ms. Dromedary.

18 MS. SANDY DROMEDARY 18
It's so great to see you both! We
were just about to have our drink
of water for the week. Would you
like to join us?

Ms. Dromedary (Desy) steps into the house. Elinor looks a
little puzzled ("Water for the week?"). They take seats
around the patio table. *

Ms. Dromedary (Desy) comes back with some ENORMOUS glasses
(10-20L) of water and puts them on the table. She has long
straws and hands Elinor and her mom one each.. *

19 MS. DESY DROMEDARY 19
Here you go.

Elinor's eyes go wide at the huge glass.

20 RANGER RABBIT 20
Oh, uh, thank you. That's... a lot
of water.

21 ELINOR 21
Ms. Dromedary, you only drink water
once a week?

22 MS. SANDY DROMEDARY 22
Yes, us camels can drink a lot of
water, and store it inside our
bodies for later. *

23 MS. DESY DROMEDARY 23
That's why we get all our water on
Sunday. It saves time the rest of
the week!

The parents each guzzle their water with remarkable speed
<SFX: SLLLURRRPPP!>.

24 ELINOR 24
Wow!

Elinor and her mom look at each other and take little sips
<SFX: SIPS>. The Dromedaries finish their glasses <SFX:
AHHH>.

25 MS. SANDY DROMEDARY 25
Oh, that was delicious. (to Desy)
Thank you, dear.

26 RANGER RABBIT 26
Yes, thank you... I'm not sure I'll
finish all of this, though.

27 MS. DESY DROMEDARY 27
Here, allow me.

Desy leans over and uses her own straw to finish it for her. *

28 ELINOR 28
Double wow!

Desy collects the glasses of water and takes them back
inside. *

29 RANGER RABBIT 29
(bringing out the
blueprints)
Ok, should we talk about the new
forest trail? *

30 ELINOR 30
Is Camilla inside? *

31 MS. SANDY DROMEDARY 31
Of course dear, I think she's
waiting for you in her room.

32 RANGER RABBIT 32
Go ahead, honey bunny. We'll see
you later.

As Ranger Rabbit takes out the plans and the adults start
talking <SFX: PROJECT PLANS/HOW INTERESTING/HMMM WALLA>,
Elinor hops off the couch and heads to Camilla's room.

4. EXT./INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Elinor stands in front of Camilla's door (we know it's her door because it's decorated with kid things). Elinor <SFX: KNOCKS>, somewhat hesitantly.

*

33 CAMILLA (O.S.) 33 *

Who is it?

34 ELINOR 34

Hi, Camilla, it's me, Elinor.

After a beat, the door opens. From off-screen we hear Camilla singing some royal fanfare.

35 CAMILLA (O.S.) 35

(singing)

TOOT-TOO-TOOOT!

(speaking)

Presenting, her majesty, QUEEN CAMILLA!

After a moment, Camilla emerges from behind the door, parading ceremoniously. She's wearing a few pieces of toy jewelry and a little crown.

36 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 36

(with a slightly exaggerated royal accent)

Why, hello, Elinor. How are you this fine morning?

Elinor plays along, <SFX: GIGGLING> and curtsying.

37 ELINOR 37

I am fine. How are you, Queen Camilla?

Camilla breaks character slightly, <SFX: GIGGLING> a little also.

38 CAMILLA 38

Oh, you know... being the queen keeps me SOOO busy. Would you like a tour of my royal chambers?

39 ELINOR 39

Ok! I mean... (gesturing graciously with her hand) I would love a tour.

The girls <SFX: GIGGLE> slightly as Camilla leads them into the room. Camilla's room is decked out in castle decorations.

40 CAMILLA 40
Here is my royal closet...

They walk past the closet, full of clothes.

41 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 41
Here are my royal books...

Elinor and Camilla walk past her bookshelf, which is shaped like a castle tower.

42 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 42
My royal bed...

They walk past her bed.

43 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 43
And, most important of all, the royal jewels.

They end in Camilla's little dressing table, which is full of stands of sparkly toy necklaces and bracelets made of colorful charms.

44 ELINOR 44
Wow... cool...

Elinor looks at all the shiny jewels.

45 CAMILLA 45
Isn't it cool? I just love things with flair.

Elinor looks curious.

46 ELINOR 46
Flair? What's flair?

47 CAMILLA 47
It's when things are unique and special. See, each one of these charms is different.

Camilla gestures to the charms and we get a quick tour of them: There are stars and hearts and silly things like ice cream cones but also some natural things like fish shapes and flowers.

48 ELINOR 48
They're so shiny.

49 CAMILLA 49
I have a royal idea of what we should play.

*
*

Elinor remembers what she wanted to play with Camilla.

50	ELINOR	50	*
	Oh! I know, is it going outside to explore?		*

51	CAMILLA	51
	Explore?	

52	ELINOR	52
	Yeah, we could go out and look at things in Nature, like trees and plants...	

Camilla doesn't look convinced.

53	CAMILLA	53
	Hmm, I don't know. Outside doesn't have a lot of flair. It all looks the same and it's all so... green.	

54	ELINOR	54
	Oh. Mmm, well--	

55	CAMILLA	55
	But I know something we can play right here.	

She gestures to the dressing table and we angle on Elinor looking puzzled.

CROSS-FADE TO:

5. INT. CAMILLA'S ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

PULL OUT to reveal that Camilla has blinged out Elinor: Elinor is now wearing a little crown too and is loaded with charm necklaces and bracelets on her neck, wrists and even on her ears!

Camilla takes a step back to admire her work.

56	CAMILLA	56
	That's perfect! Now you have lots of flair.	

Elinor looks in the mirror and <SFX: GIGGLES>.

57	ELINOR	57
	Wow, I look like a queen too.	

58	CAMILLA	58
	Queen Camilla and Queen Elinor!	

They <SFX: GIGGLE> together.

59	CAMILLA (CONT'D)	59
	And now, I'm going to give you my favorite necklace.	

She reaches over to the table and grabs a special beaded necklace with a single charm.

60	CAMILLA (CONT'D)	60
	See, it has a very special charm.	

She moves it towards Elinor and holds it up, and we see the charm is actually a shiny version of the leaf that Elinor saw earlier outside. Elinor <SFX: GASPS!>!

61	ELINOR	61	
	Camilla, I just saw that outside.		*
	There was a leaf that looks just		*
	like this charm.		*

62	CAMILLA	62	
	Really? A leaf? Are you sure?		*

63	ELINOR	63	
	Yeah, the leaf I saw looked just		*
	like this.		*
			*

Camilla is amazed and has an idea.

64	CAMILLA	64
	Elinor, you must show me. Want to go outside and look for it?	

65	ELINOR	65
	Ok!	

Elinor starts to take off some of the bling. *

66	CAMILLA	66
	But first, we need to tell our royal subjects.	

67	ELINOR	67
	Our royal subjects?	

68	CAMILLA	68
	Yes, our parents!	

Elinor <SFX: OH!> and they both <SFX: GIGGLE> as they run out of the room.

6. EXT. CAMILLA'S HOUSE PORCH - DAY

Elinor and Camilla pass through the porch on their way out.
Elinor is no longer blinged out (or is less blinged out).

69	ELINOR	69	*
	Mom, we're going out to the forest.		*
70	RANGER RABBIT	70	
	What are you kids up to?		
71	CAMILLA	71	
	We're on a royal quest!		
72	ELINOR	72	
	To find a leaf!		
73	MS. SANDY DROMEDARY	73	
	Good luck, your highnesses.		

The girls <SFX: GIGGLE> as they walk down the front steps. *

7. EXT. CAMILLA'S HOUSE - DAY

Elinor and Camilla walk down the path in front of the house together. Elinor looks around a bit, then finds the spot where she had seen the leaf earlier. She runs over to it, followed by Camilla.

74	ELINOR	74	*
	Here it is!		
	She picks up the leaf and shows it to Camilla.		
75	CAMILLA	75	*
	Wow, you're right, Elinor. It does		*
	look like my favorite charm.		*

Camilla compares it to the charm and they are indeed the same.

76	CAMILLA (CONT'D)	76	*
	They're both flat and they both		*
	look like a little fan. But... is		*
	this really a leaf?		*

She looks around and picks up a regular oval-shaped leaf from the ground.

77	CAMILLA (CONT'D)	77	
	I thought all leaves looked the		
	same, like this one. Rounded and		
	pointy.		

While they explore, we see them holding the ginkgo leaf next to all kinds of leaves of different shapes and sizes. At each stop, we see Camilla collecting samples of the leaves she finds on the ground.

85	ELINOR/CAMILLA	85
	Let's look here, Let's look there, Leaves are lying Everywhere! Some are pointy, Some are round, (Camilla) Look at this one I just found! Some are long Some are thin (Elinor) That's the biggest leaf I've ever seen! Let's look here, Let's look there, Who knew Nature had So much flair!	

End song:

CROSSFADE TO:

9. EXT. CLEARING - DAY

Elinor and Camilla standing in a clearing. Camilla is holding an arm full of different leaf samples.

86	CAMILLA	86
	Wow, Elinor, I had no idea there were SO many different kinds of leaves. Look, this one is so big... and this one is so small.	

Camilla holds up a really big leaf and a really small leaf from her collection next to the ginkgo leaf Elinor is holding.

87	ELINOR	87
	Isn't it amazing how leaves can be so many different sizes?	

88	CAMILLA	88
	And look, they can be lots of different shapes. This one is really round...	

She holds up a nearly circular leaf and compares it to several interestingly shaped leaves.

89 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 89
This one is really squiggly, and
this one is really pointy.

90 ELINOR 90
Awesome!

91 CAMILLA 91
And I thought all leaves were
green, but they're not. Look, we
found a purple leaf, and a white
leaf... and a red leaf...

She next holds up leaves of different colors.

92 ELINOR 92
Yeah, most leaves are green, but
they can also be different colors.

Elinor looks at the ginkgo leaf she's holding.

93 ELINOR (CONT'D) 93
Hmmm... but we still haven't found
the tree or plant that *this* leaf
comes from.

They look around puzzled for a beat. Suddenly, a single leaf brought in by the wind falls right on Elinor's nose. It looks like the ginkgo leaf, but it's yellow.

94 ELINOR (CONT'D) 94
Huh? Camilla, look. It's the same
kind of leaf. But... it's yellow?

They hold up the two leaves next to each other and see that one is yellow and the other is green.

95 CAMILLA 95
Whoa...

At that moment, another yellow ginkgo leaf falls near them.

96 ELINOR 96
C'mon, I think they're coming from
over here.

They follow the trail of falling yellow leaves for a short distance. They part some bushes and come upon... a big ginkgo tree. Half of its leaves have turned a beautiful golden yellow color and some of them are falling already.

*

97 CAMILLA 97
 Wow, we found it! It's the tree
 with the leaves from my charm.

They stand under the tree, admiring it.

98 ELINOR 98
 The leaves are turning yellow. It
 must be turning into fall already. *

Camilla picks up a yellow leaf and adds it to her collection.

99 CAMILLA 99
 I'm so glad we went exploring,
 Elinor.

100 ELINOR 100
 Me too! I always find something
 interesting. *

101 CAMILLA 101
 All these leaves have given me a
 fabulous idea. C'mon, let's go back
 to my house! *

Holding the leaves, they head off-screen back towards the house.

CROSSFADE TO:

10. EXT./INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - LATER

Ranger Rabbit and the Dromedaries walk up to Camilla's door, and knock slightly.

102 MS. SANDY DROMEDARY 102
 Your highness? Camilla, it's time
 for Elinor to go home.

103 CAMILLA (O.S.) 103
 Ok, we are almost ready!

We hear some crashing and banging. The adults exchange a look and raise their eyebrows. The door opens. We hear Elinor and Camilla singing the royal fanfare sound.

104 ELINOR/CAMILLA 104
 (singing)
 TOOT-TOO-TOOT!

105 ELINOR 105
 Presenting... Queen Camilla and
 Queen Elinor!

106	ELINOR/CAMILLA	106
	Ta-da!	
	Elinor is fully blinged out (as before, not with leaves), and Camilla is also blinged out... but with leaves!	*
107	RANGER RABBIT	107
	Wow, you girls look amazing.	
108	CAMILLA	108
	I'm wearing leaf charms!	
109	ELINOR	109
	We went outside to explore, and found lots of different kinds of leaves, Mom.	*
110	CAMILLA	110
	Yeah, I thought all leaves were the same. The same size, the same shape, the same color... But ACTUALLY there are lots of different kinds of leaves.	
111	ELINOR	111
	See, there are round leaves and big leaves and squiggly leaves...	
112	CAMILLA	112
	And yellow leaves!	
113	RANGER RABBIT	113
	That's right, kids. Different trees make different kinds of leaves.	
114	ELINOR	114
	Nature is so much fun to explore.	
115	CAMILLA	115
	Yes! As queen, I proclaim it's true: Nature has a LOT of FLAIR!	

They all <SFX: LAUGH> as we...

FADE OUT *