

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 162 Olive's Library

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Elinor's Question: How can we organize all of Olives' books?

Logline: The kids take inspiration from ants and make a little lending library.

Curriculum Goals

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.

SEP1b. Ask more complex questions about observable phenomena.
(Elinor and her friends ask more complex questions about ants)

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1. EXT. OLIVE'S YARD - DAY

It's OLIVE'S birthday, and she's celebrating with a party outside at her house with her mom (MS. ELEPHANT) and some of her friends, including ELINOR, ARI, SALLY, and TITO. We open as the kids are finishing singing happy birthday. We pan over some of the characters singing: *

1	ELINOR	1	
	Happy Birthday to you...		
2	TITO (ENERGETICALLY)	2	
	Happy BIRTHDAY to YOU...		
3	SALLY (EARNESTLY BUT OUT OF KEY)	3	
	Happy biiiiiiiiirirthday, dear Olive...		*
4	ARI (DRAMATICALLY)	4	
	Happy BIRTHDAAAAAAY to YOUUUUUUUU.		

We stop on Olive, who is wearing a birthday crown and looking excited, sitting in front of a beautifully decorated but clearly home-made cake. <SFX: WALLA, CHEER, YAY, CLAPPING>. Nearby there is a stack of presents (not too many).

5	OLIVE (SHEEPISH, A BIT SHY)	5	*
	Aww, thanks everyone.		
6	MS. ELEPHANT	6	*
	Make a wish and blow out your candles, dear.		

She smiles, thinks for a second and then uses her trunk to blow out the candles on the cake <SFX: BLOW/TRUMPET>. Everyone cheers <SFX: WALLA, CHEER, YAY, CLAPPING> and her mom blows her <SFX: TRUNK-TRUMPET>, too. *

7	ELINOR	7	
	What did you wish for, Olive?		
8	OLIVE	8	
	I wished... that I could open my presents right now! Can I open them, Mom?		*

They all look at MS. ELEPHANT. *

9	MS. ELEPHANT	9	*
	Well, I suppose that would be alright. We can cut the cake afterwards. Go ahead, sweetie.		*

The kids <SFX: CHEER>. Ari looks to the kid next to him. *

20	OLIVE (CONT'D)	20	
	Thank you Elinor!		
	Ari sneaks over to the present pile and pulls his out of the stack and hands it to Olive.		
21	ARI (NONCHALANTLY)	21	
	I think this one is next. I wonder who it's from?		*
22	OLIVE	22	
	Oh, it's from you, Ari!		
23	ARI	23	
	I know! Open it!		*
	She opens it.		
24	OLIVE	24	
	It's another book!		*
25	ARI	25	
	Not just <i>any</i> book. It's a book ABOUT books!		* *
26	OLIVE	26	
	Oh, it shows you all the different kinds of books there are. Amazing. Thank you, Ari!		*
	Ari looks very proud.		
	CROSSFADE TO: we see the pile of books has grown to five. Ms. Elephant returns with plates for everyone.		* *
27	MS. ELEPHANT	27	
	Olive, you got more books. How wonderful! Why don't you take them up to your room while I set up for cake?		* *
	The kids offer to help. <SFX: WALLA WE'LL HELP/I'LL COME> They each grab a book and head into the house.		* *
	2. INT HALLWAY -- DAY		
	Elinor, Olive, Ari, Tito and Sally are making their way to Olive's room.		* *
28	ELINOR	28	
	You sure got a lot of books today, Olive.		*

29 OLIVE 29 *
Yeah, I have the best friends. *
Everyone knows how much I love *
books! *

30 ARI 30 *
Where are you going to put all *
these books? *

31 OLIVE 31 *
Where else? In my room.

3. INT OLIVE'S ROOM -- DAY

Elinor and Ari and the other kids enter Olive's room and we *
reveal: Olive's room is FULL of books. There are stacks of *
books EVERYWHERE.

32 ARI 32 *
Wow, you have a LOT of books, *
Olive.

33 SALLY 33 *
Where should we put them? *

The kids look for a place to put the books down. Comically
bumping into each other. There's no place to put them down!

34 OLIVE 34 *
Here, there's a little room next to *
my bookshelf.

The kids make a new stack, and then look around.

35 ELINOR 35 *
Have you read ALL these books, *
Olive?

36 OLIVE 36 *
Every single one! Sometimes more
than once.

Sally picks up a book near her. *

37 SALLY 37 *
Wow, it's a book about making *
things out of wood! I'd love to
read this one.

38 OLIVE 38 *
Yeah, that one has really good
ideas for projects.

Tito picks up a book and opens it.

*

39 TITO 39
Cool, a book about running. I love
to run.

He runs a few laps around the room, dodging the kids and the
stacks of books.

40 OLIVE 40
Yeah, that's a great book too,
Tito. *

She runs a bit with Tito, <SFX: GIGGLING>. Whoops, they
knock down a small pile of books. *

41 ELINOR 41
Uh, Olive... pretty soon you won't
have much room left in your...
room. *

42 ARI 42
A room without room! Hah! Get it?
(off everyone's look)
But seriously, Olive. What are you
going to do with all these books? *

43 OLIVE 43
Keep them, of course! I like to
keep them because I love books. *

Ari and Elinor look at each other with slight concern. At
that moment, Olive's mom calls out to them. *

44 MS. ELEPHANT(O.S.) 44
Yoo hoo, kids, it's time for cake! *

Ari's stomach grumbles and the kids <SFX: CHEER>. *

45 OLIVE 45
Oh yeah! The cake! *

Tito and Sally set down the books they were holding and they
all run out the door. As they leave, the camera lingers on a
teetering stack of books near the door. *

4. EXT. OLIVE'S YARD - DAY *

A cross-fade later, we open on a top view of Olive's cake as
Ms. Elephant passes out the slices. The kids are all sitting
around the table. *

46	OLIVE	46	
	Yay, banana birthday cake, my favorite!		
47	ARI	47	
	(munching)		*
	It's SO GOOD. I wish we could have birthday cake every day.		
48	OLIVE	48	*
	You only get a birthday once a year, silly.		*
49	ARI	49	
	Sure, but every day is SOMEONE's birthday.		*
	They all <SFX: GIGGLE>. Then something catches Elinor's attention.		*
50	ELINOR	50	
	Ooh, look at that ant.		
	She sees a small ant carrying a tiny (but big for the ant) seed off the table.		*
			*
51	ELINOR (CONT'D)	51	
	I wonder where it's taking that seed?		*
	Curious, she follows it down the table leg and onto the grass. Soon, she sees it join a trail of other ants carrying and pulling little seeds.		
52	ELINOR (CONT'D)	52	
	Wow, it's a whole bunch of ants!		*
	Other kids notice that Elinor is interested in something.		
53	OLIVE	53	
	What are you looking at, Elinor?		
54	ELINOR	54	*
	All these ants. They're carrying seeds somewhere.		*
55	ARI	55	
	Where are they going?		
56	ELINOR	56	
	Let's find out. We need MORE OBSERVATIONS!		*
			*

Musical moment as the kids follow the trail of ants, like a trail of ants themselves: across the yard, and over a rock and a log. Soon, they arrive at the ant hill near the edge of Olive's yard.

57	ELINOR (CONT'D)	57	*
	It looks like they're all going in there.		*
58	OLIVE	58	*
	That's where the ants live. It's called an ant hill.		*
59	ARI	59	*
	Cool!		*
60	OLIVE	60	*
	There are THOUSANDS of ants inside. I read all about it in a book about ants I have in my room.		*
	In a THOUGHT BUBBLE, we see Olive's ant book over her shoulder. It shows a few ants carrying a little seed on the cover. She opens it, and we see a cutout diagram of an ant hill.		*
61	OLIVE (CONT'D)	61	*
	Anthills have lots of little rooms under the ground that all the ants share.		*
	The bubble pops. Elinor looks at the ants entering the ant hill.		*
62	ELINOR	62	*
	Wow, that's so cool. What are they doing with all those seeds?		*
	Olive looks more closely at the ants.		*
63	OLIVE	63	*
	I think these are harvester ants. It's a special kind of ant that brings seeds back to the anthill to eat.		*
64	ARI	64	*
	Hmm. That seed is so big. Isn't that too much food for one ant?		*
65	OLIVE	65	*
	I read about that in my book, too! The ants share their food with each other.		*

We see another THOUGHT BUBBLE.

*

66	OLIVE (CONT'D)	66	
	They put all the seeds in a special		*
	room. And then the other ants come		*
	and help themselves when they're		*
	hungry.		
67	SALLY	67	
	How nice. That way everyone gets		
	something to eat.		
68	ELINOR	68	
	Wow, that is SO INTERESTING.		
69	SALLY	69	*
	I wish I knew as much about ants as		
	you do, Olive.		*
70	TITO	70	
	Me too. That ant book sounds really		
	fun to read.		
71	OLIVE	71	
	It's a great book. You know what?		*
	I'll go get it from my room and		*
	show it to you. Wait here!		

Olive leaves the group as she crosses the yard to go back into the house. *

5. INT. OLIVE'S ROOM - DAY

Back in her room, Olive looks for her ant book among the big mess of books. *

72	OLIVE	72	
	Hmmm, that's not it. That's not it.		*
	Where is it?		*

After a beat, she finds it. *

73	OLIVE (CONT'D)	73	
	Aha! Here it is!		

She finds the book near the bottom of a large stack. She tugs on it, and the tower of books teeters slightly. *

74	OLIVE (CONT'D)	74	
	(grunting slightly)		*
	Come out, little book.		*

Olive tries to carefully pull on it, but it seems to be stuck. Finally, she gives it a yank and pulls it out. *

75 OLIVE (CONT'D) 75
Uh oh!

The stack of books teeters. Olive backs up, and oops, trips on some other books and falls into a stack of books as the other stack teeters and... *

6. EXT. OLIVE'S BACK YARD -- DAY

Outside, we hear a distant thump, as the kids are waiting near the ant hill. Most of the kids are still admiring the ants, but Elinor takes notice. *

76 ELINOR 76
Hmm, Olive is taking a long time.

77 ARI 77
Wasn't she just getting that book?

78 SALLY 78
She should be back by now.

They look at each other, remembering her messy stacks of books. *

79 ELINOR 79
Maybe we should go check on her.

7. INT. OLIVE'S ROOM - DAY

A cross-fade later, Elinor and Ari approach the room. The entrance is slightly blocked by toppled stacks of books. As they make their way in, they call out: *

80 ARI 80
Olive? Are you in there?

81 OLIVE 81 *
I'm here!

She's splayed out on top of some more toppled books, still holding the book she pulled out. *

82 OLIVE (CONT'D) 82 *
Could I get a little help?

Elinor and Ari help her up.

83	ELINOR	83	*
	What happened?		
84	OLIVE	84	
	I was trying to get the ant book		*
	from under some other books, so I		*
	pulled on it, but then I fell into		*
	this pile of books.		*
85	ARI	85	
	No wonder. It's a book-o-rama in		
	here!		*
	Tito and Sally come in.		*
86	TITO	86	*
	Are you ok, Olive?		*
87	OLIVE	87	
	Yeah, I think there might be a few		
	too many books in here.		
88	ELINOR	88	*
	You do have a lot of books for one		*
	kid.		*
89	OLIVE	89	
	But what can I do?		*
	They all scratch their heads for a beat. Olive looks at the		
	book she's been holding all this time. It's the ant book. She		*
	looks at the cover drawing of the ants sharing a seed, and		*
	has an epiphany.		
90	OLIVE (CONT'D)	90	
	I know. Maybe I should be like the		*
	ants!		
91	ELINOR	91	
	What do you mean?		
92	OLIVE	92	
	Remember how I told you that ants		
	share their food?		*
93	ELINOR	93	
	Oooh...		
94	ARI	94	
	(smacks his lips)		*
	You want to share food with us?		*
95	OLIVE	95	
	No, I should share my books!		

Olive goes over to Sally and hands her the woodworking book near her.

96	OLIVE (CONT'D)	96	
	Sally, did you say you wanted read this book?		
97	SALLY	97	
	Yeah.		
98	OLIVE	98	
	I'll share it with you. Please, take it home.		
99	SALLY	99	
	Oh, thank you!		
100	OLIVE	100	
	Tito, here is the ant book you wanted to read.		
101	TITO	101	
	Wow, really?		
102	OLIVE	102	
	You can borrow it as long as you like. And when you're done, you can share it with other kids too.		*
103	TITO	103	
	Thanks, I will!		
104	ELINOR	104	
	Are you sure you want to share ALL your books, Olive?		*
105	OLIVE	105	
	Well, I have my extra special books in this bookcase. I want to keep those here. And, I want to keep all the books I got as presents today. But the rest are books I'm happy to share.		* *
Ari looks around at all the books.			
106	ARI	106	
	How are you going to share ALL these books? There are too many to carry around town.		* * *
107	TITO	107	
	You could put them around your house?		

108	ELINOR	108	
	Or maybe outside, so everyone can get to them.		*
109	ARI	109	
	But what if it rains?		*
	Just then, Sally looks up from her book.		*
110	SALLY	110	
	I have an idea. You know how ants have a special place where they put all the food they share?		
	We see a thought bubble of the ant food chamber from before.		*
111	SALLY (CONT'D)	111	
	Maybe we can make a special place for the books you want to share, just like the ants do?		*
	She opens the woodworking book to a page that shows a mini- library project (a small standing cabinet, like the kind you see outside schools or homes). The kids look excitedly at the book.		
112	ELINOR	112	
	Wow! That way everyone can come borrow a book.		* *
113	ARI	113	
	Cool! And they will stay dry.		
114	OLIVE	114	
	A mini-library! Let's do it!		
	We launch into a ditty with the kids dancing and sharing books and building the mini-library together outside (Sally Beaver, with her awesome beaver teeth, cuts the pieces in no time, while Ms. Elephant helps them assemble).		* *
115	ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE	115	
	Here a book, there a book Look, look, share a book! It's fun to share 'Cause it shows you care!		* * *
	Want to learn about silly hats? Well, Olive's got A book about that!		* * *
	Want to know Why cows say moo? (MORE)		* *

ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE (CONT'D)

Well, Olive's got	*
Just the book for you!	*
Take a book, give a book	*
Look, look, share a book!	*
It's fun to share	*
'Cause it shows you care!	*

8. EXT. FRONT OF OLIVE'S HOUSE

After the song, we see that the mini-library is finished, and Olive is finishing putting in some books. *

Ari and Elinor come huffing down the path, carrying some books.

116	ELINOR	116	
	I brought some books from my house		
	to share.		*
117	ARI	117	
	Me too! I've got one about rocket		*
	ships, and one about cars and one		*
	about muffins.		
118	SALLY	118	
	I've got books to share too! I'll		
	bring them later.		*
119	TITO	119	
	Me too!		
The kids all smile at the success of their project.			
120	OLIVE	120	
	Thank you guys for coming to my		
	party.		
121	ELINOR	121	
	It was really fun.		
122	ARI	122	
	And we learned a lot!		*
123	OLIVE	123	
	I think this is the best gift ever:		*
	my own little library.		*
124	ELINOR	124	
	And its for everyone to share.		*

125	OLIVE	125	*
	Yeah, because everything is always better when you share.		
126	ARI	126	*
	ANT that's the truth.		
	Everyone looks at Ari.		*
127	ARI (CONT'D)	127	*
	Get it? Because of the ANTS?		
	The kids all share a big <SFX: GIGGLE>. On a wide angle, we see two small harvester ants nearby carrying a seed as we...		*
	IRIS OUT		*
		THE END	*