

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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FIRST DRAFT: February. 10, 2020

SECOND DRAFT: March 02, 2020

POLISH DRAFT: March 12, 2020

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 and mom are finishing <SFX: SINGING HAPPY BIRTHDAY>. We pan over some of the characters as they sing. *

1 ALL 1 *

...Haaaappy Biiirthday to Youuuuuu! *

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. Nearby there is a stack of presents (not too many). As the song ends, we hear everyone <SFX: WALLA, CHEER, YAY, CLAPPING> and Olive gets a few hugs. *

2 ELINOR 2 *

Happy Birthday, Olive! *

3 OLIVE (SHEEPISH, A BIT SHY) 3 *

Aww, thanks everyone.

4 MS. ELEPHANT 4 *

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. *

5 ELINOR 5

What did you wish for, Olive?

6 OLIVE 6 *

I wished for the whole world to feel happy... and that I could open my presents right now! Can I open them, Mom? *

They all look at MS. ELEPHANT. *

7 MS. ELEPHANT 7 *

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. *

8 ARI 8 *

Oooh, ohh, I hope she opens my present first. She's going to love it! *

Elinor takes the top present from the pile and hands it to Olive.

9 OLIVE 9
This one is from... Tito. *

Tito beams. Ari looks a bit impatient/disappointed. Olive open's Tito's present.

10 OLIVE (CONT'D) 10
It's a book! *

11 TITO 11
It's all about insects that start
with the letter M. *

12 OLIVE 12
(flipping through it)
Moths, mites, millipedes. That's
MMMMMMMarvelous. Thank you, Tito! *

Tito smiles. Back on Ari, still excited. *

13 ARI 13
Ooh, I hope she opens mine next. *

Elinor hands Olive the next present. *

14 OLIVE 14
This one is from... Elinor. *

Elinor smiles. Ari slumps his shoulders. Olive opens Elinor's present. *

15 OLIVE (CONT'D) 15
It's another book! *

16 ELINOR 16
It's about birds from all around
the world. *

17 OLIVE 17
Thank you! Ostriches and penguins
and robins. And look at this! *

The book unfolds into a pop-up book with a bird that flaps
its wings when you open/close the book. <SFX: 0000000000H>. *

Ari sneaks over to the present pile and pulls his out of the
stack and hands it to Olive.

18 ARI (NONCHALANTLY) 18
I think this one is next. I wonder
who it's from? *

19 OLIVE 19
Oh, it's from you, Ari!

20 ARI 20
I know! Open it! *

She opens it.

21 OLIVE 21
It's also a book! *

22 ARI 22
Not just *any* book. It's a book
ABOUT books! *

23 OLIVE 23
Oh, it shows you all the different
kinds of books there are: history
books, nature books, coloring
books. 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. *

24 MS. ELEPHANT 24
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. *

25 ELINOR 25
You sure got a lot of books today,
Olive. *

26 OLIVE 26
Yeah, I have the best friends.
Everyone knows how much I love
books! *

27 ARI 27
Where are you going to put them
all? *

3. INT OLIVE'S ROOM -- DAY

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

37 OLIVE 37 *

Yeah, that's a great book too,
Tito.

She runs a bit with Tito, <SFX: GIGGLING>, but then she *
knocks down a small pile of books <SFX: WHOOPS>. They reach *
down to stack them back up. *

38 ELINOR 38 *

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

39 ARI 39 *

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

40 OLIVE 40 *

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. *

41 MS. ELEPHANT(O.S.) 41 *

Yoo hoo, kids, it's time for cake! *

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

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 *
(some already served) as Ms. Elephant passes out the slices. *
The kids are all sitting around the table.

42 OLIVE 42 *

Yay, banana birthday cake, my
favorite!

43 ARI 43 *

(munching)
It's SO GOOD. I wish we could have
birthday cake every day.

44 OLIVE 44 *

You only get one birthday a year,
silly. *

45	ARI	45	*
	Sure, but every day is SOMEONE's birthday.		
	They all <SFX: GIGGLE>. Then something catches Elinor's attention.		*
46	ELINOR	46	
	Ooh, look at that ant.		
	She sees a small ant carrying a tiny (but big for the ant) seed off the table.		*
			*
47	ELINOR (CONT'D)	47	*
	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.		
48	ELINOR (CONT'D)	48	*
	Wow, it's a whole bunch of ants!		
	Other kids notice that Elinor is interested in something.		
49	OLIVE	49	
	What are you looking at, Elinor?		
50	ELINOR	50	*
	All these ants. They're carrying seeds somewhere.		*
51	ARI	51	
	Where are they going?		
52	ELINOR	52	*
	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.		*
53	ELINOR (CONT'D)	53	*
	It looks like they're all going in there.		
54	OLIVE	54	*
	That's where the ants live. It's called an ant hill.		*

55	ARI	55	*
	Cool!		*
56	OLIVE	56	*
	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.		*
57	OLIVE (CONT'D)	57	*
	All animals need food, water, air,		*
	and SPACE to live, and that's why		*
	ants have the anthill. It has lots		*
	of little rooms for them to live		*
	in.		*
	The bubble pops. Elinor looks at the ants entering the ant		*
	hill.		*
58	ELINOR	58	*
	What are they doing with all those		*
	seeds?		*
	Olive looks more closely at the ants.		*
59	OLIVE	59	*
	I think these are harvester ants.		*
	It's a special kind of ant that		*
	brings seeds back to the anthill to		*
	eat.		*
60	ARI	60	*
	Because they need food, too. (after		*
	a beat) Hmm. That seed is bigger		*
	than the ant's belly! Isn't that		*
	too much for one ant?		*
61	OLIVE	61	*
	I read about that, too! The ants		*
	share their food with each other.		*
	We see another THOUGHT BUBBLE.		*
62	OLIVE (CONT'D)	62	*
	They put all the seeds in a special		*
	room, and then the other ants come		*
	and get some when they're hungry.		*

63 SALLY 63 *
 How nice. That way everyone gets *
 something to eat.

64 ELINOR 64 *
 That is SO INTERESTING.

65 SALLY 65 *
 I wish I knew as much about ants as *
 you do, Olive.

66 TITO 66
 Me too. That ant book sounds really
 fun to read.

67 OLIVE 67 *
 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. *

68 OLIVE 68 *
 Hmmm, that's not it. That's not it. *
 Where is it? *

After a beat, she finds it. *

69 OLIVE (CONT'D) 69
 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.

70 OLIVE (CONT'D) 70 *
 (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.

71 OLIVE (CONT'D) 71
 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 <SFX: THUMP>, as the kids are waiting near the ant hill. Most of the kids are still admiring the ants, but Elinor takes notice.

*

72 ELINOR 72
Hmm, Olive is taking a long time.

73 ARI 73
Wasn't she just getting that book?

74 SALLY 74
She should be back by now.

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

*

75 ELINOR 75
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:

*

*

76 ARI 76
Olive? Are you in here?

*

*

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

*

*

77 OLIVE 77
I'm here! Could I get a little help?

*

*

Elinor and Ari help her up.

78 ELINOR 78
What happened?

*

79 OLIVE 79
I was trying to get the ant book from under some other books, but then I fell into this pile of books.

*

*

*

*

80 ARI 80
No wonder. It's a book-o-rama in here!

*

Tito and Sally come in.

*

81	TITO	81	*
	Are you ok, Olive?		*

82	OLIVE	82	
	Yeah, I think there might be a few too many books in here. 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.

*

*

83	OLIVE (CONT'D)	83	
	I know. Maybe I should be like the ants!		*

84	ELINOR	84	
	What do you mean?		

85	OLIVE	85	
	Remember how I told you that ants share their food?		*

86	ARI	86	*
	(smacks his lips)		*
	You want to share food with us?		*

87	OLIVE	87	
	No, I should share my books!		

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

88	OLIVE (CONT'D)	88	
	Sally, did you say you wanted to read this book?		*

89	SALLY	89	
	Yeah.		

90	OLIVE	90	
	I'll share it with you. Please, take it home.		

91	SALLY	91	
	Oh, thank you!		

92	OLIVE	92	
	Tito, here is the running book you wanted to read.		*

93	TITO	93	
	Wow, really?		
94	OLIVE	94	
	You can borrow it as long as you like. And when you're done, you can share it with other kids too.		*
95	TITO	95	
	Thanks, I will!		
96	ELINOR	96	
	Are you sure you want to share ALL your books, Olive?		*
97	OLIVE	97	
	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.		
98	ARI	98	
	How are you going to share ALL these books? There are too many to carry around town.		*
			*
			*
99	TITO	99	
	You could put them in your living room.		*
			*
100	ELINOR	100	
	Or maybe outside, so everyone can get to them.		*
101	ARI	101	
	But what if it rains?		*
	Just then, Sally looks up from her book.		*
102	SALLY	102	
	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.		*
103	SALLY (CONT'D)	103	
	Maybe we can make a special place for the books you want to share, just like the ants do?		*
			*

104	ELINOR	104	
	That's a great idea! We can put it		*
	outside, and that way everyone can		*
	come borrow a book.		*

106	OLIVE	106
	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).

107	ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE	107
	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 (Ari only)	*
	A book about that! (Ari only)	*
	Want to know	
	Why cows say moo?	*
	Well, Olive's got (Elinor only)	*
	Just the book for you!(Elinor only)	*
	Take a book, give a book	
	Look, look, share a book!	*
	It's fun to share	*
	'Cause it shows you care!	*

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

108 ELINOR 108
I brought some books from my house
to share. *

109	ARI	109	
	Me too! I've got one about rocket ships, and one about cars and one about muffins.		* *
110	SALLY	110	
	I've got books to share too! I'll bring them later.		*
111	TITO	111	
	Me too!		
	The kids all smile at the success of their project.		
112	OLIVE	112	
	Thank you for coming to my party.		*
113	ELINOR	113	
	It was really fun.		
	Ari picks out and opens the ant book.		*
114	ARI	114	
	And we learned a lot about ants!		*
115	OLIVE	115	
	This is the best gift ever: Now I have more room in my room AND my own little library.		* * *
116	ELINOR	116	
	So everyone can share.		* *
117	OLIVE	117	
	Yeah, because everything is always better when you share.		*
118	ARI	118	
	ANT that's the truth.		*
	Everyone looks at Ari.		*
119	ARI (CONT'D)	119	
	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		*