

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW163 More Than One Way

by Kate Barris

Elinor's Question: Are all spider webs the same?

Logline: Elinor, Olive and Ari want to make spiderwebs to decorate the classroom for Halloween, and they all think they know what a spider web looks like. But which one right?

Curriculum Goals:

LS8. Observe and describe similarities and differences across different types of plants and animals. (Elinor And her friends observe the different patterns of spiders' webs).

SEP2. Developing and using models

a. Represent observable, concrete objects, events, and findings in many different ways. (Elinor and her friends make models of different spider's webs).

Main Characters: Elinor, Olive, Ari, Mz. Mole

Incidental Characters: Other kids in the classroom

Backgrounds: Schoolyard, trees, shrubs

Props: Witch's hat, yarn glue, three different spiders, spider webs, ghostly sheet, a mask for Koa, other Halloween decorations.

FIRST DRAFT January 27, 2020

SECOND DRAFT February 18, 2020

POLISH, March 6, 2020

1. EXT. NEAR ELINOR'S HOUSE - DAY

It's a BEAUTIFUL, SLIGHTLY OVERCAST FALL DAY.

OPEN ON: An ORANGE leaf, wiggling on a branch as a breeze blows by. Then, the leaf detaches and we follow it as it FLUTTERS downward, drifting this way and that.

Below, we see Elinor, hopping down her front step as Ari and Olive arrive. The kids are <SFX: GIGGLING>.

1	ELINOR	1	
	Hi Olive. Hi Ari. Are you scared?		*

2	OLIVE	2	
	Why should we be scared, Elinor?		*

Elinor wiggles her fingers and tries to look "spooky".

3	ELINOR	3	
	'Cause it's almost Halloween. (using scary voice) That's when spooky things appear out of nowhere.		

4	ARI	4	
	That doesn't scare me. Nothing scares me.		

Just then THE LEAF lands right on Ari's head! <SFX: STARTLED SHOUT> Ari leaps into the air and ends up hanging from a tree. The leaf falls off Ari, and Elinor and Olive <SFX: GIGGLES> as it drifts down into Elinor's hand. She shows it to Ari, who is still clutching the branch.

5	ELINOR	5	
	It was just a leaf, Ari.		

Ari lets go and drops to the ground, trying to regain composure.

6	ARI	6	
	I knew that. I was just jumping. For fun. So... what were we talking about?		* *

They continue walking.

7	OLIVE	7	
	Halloween. I love it.		

8	ARI	8	
	Me too.		

Elinor stops and turns to the other two.

9 ELINOR 9
And you know what the best part of
Halloween is, right?

Ari and Olive <SFX: AGREEMENT WALLA>.

10 ELINOR (CONT'D) 10
(confidently) The cool decorations.

Ari and Olive look at each other, confused. <SFX: WALLA:
HUH?>

11 OLIVE 11
Decorations aren't the best part.

Ari nods his head in agreement with Olive. <SFX: AGREEMENT
WALLA>.

12 OLIVE (CONT'D) 12
It's the costumes.

Ari nods his head. Then stops and looks at Olive, surprised.

13 ARI 13
Right... Wait. What?

Ari looks at Olive, then Elinor like they've got two heads.

14 ARI (CONT'D) 14
The best part of Halloween isn't *
the costumes **or** the decorations. *
It's allllll the yummy candy!

15 ELINOR 15
Okay, the candy is good, but it *
wouldn't be Halloween without all
those cool, scary decorations -
like jack-o-lanterns and ghosts.

16 OLIVE 16
But what about wearing a costume *
and going around the neighbourhood
dressed like something fun?

17 ARI 17
I'm sorry. Costumes are fun and
scary decorations are nice, but
Halloween is all about the candy.
Am I right?

18 ELINOR 18 *
I wonder ... How can we all have *
such different ways of thinking
about Halloween?

19 ARI 19
I don't know.

20 OLIVE 20 *
Well I do know we'll be late for
school if we don't hurry. Come on.
I can't wait to see what Mz. Mole's
doing for Halloween.

<SFX: EXCITED WALLA> as they race off.

2. EXT. SCHOOLYARD - MOMENTS LATER

The kids race into the schoolyard.

21 ELINOR 21
I hope there are lots of scary
decorations.

22 ARI 22 *
It doesn't matter to me. I'm not
scared of anything.

Suddenly Olive has a surprised look on her face as she looks
toward the school.

23 OLIVE 23
What's that?

They look at the window and see a silhouette of a witch!

24 ARI 24 *
It's a witch!!

He leaps behind Olive and peeks out from behind as they all
stare at the window.

Then, MZ. MOLE opens the curtain and they see that she's
wearing a WITCH'S HAT. She smiles and waves at the kids.

25 ELINOR 25
(giggle) It's just Mz. Mole. She
loves Halloween too.

Ari comes out from behind Olive, trying to look cool.

26

Elinor and Olive <SFX: WALLA "Yeah Right" "Uh huh">.

3. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari run into the classroom. Other kids are already there, working on their own projects, and there are already a few DECORATIONS up. Ari sees KOA with his back to him. He taps Koa on the shoulder and he turns, wearing a FUNNY-SCARY MASK. Ari jumps back, startled, <SFX: STARTLED WALLA> and Koa peeks out from behind the mask, with a big smile. Mz. Mole, who is still wearing her witch's hat greets them. <SFX: GREETINGS>

27

<SFX: AGREEMENT WALLA>.

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Elinor, Olive and Ari look at each other in surprise.

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Mz. Mole peers into the cubbies. Then she spots something.

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Elinor, Olive and Ari respond with enthusiastic <SFX: WALLA> as Mz. Mole pulls out some supplies - BALLS OF YARN AND GLUE.

32 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 32
 Here are some supplies. Do you all
 know what a spiderweb looks like?

The kids dive into the supplies, pulling out yarn. <SFX:
 EXCITED WALLA: SURE. YUP. I DO.>

33 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 33
 Why don't you each make a small
 model of one first and see what you
 come up with. *

Elinor and Olive start working on their models. We see Elinor
 laying down outward-pointing pieces of YARN and then gluing
 longer pieces of yarn around in kind of a circle. *

34 ELINOR 34
 I'm going to make the scariest
 looking spiderweb. *

We see Olive laying down four pieces of YELLOW YARN joined at
 one end and then laying pieces of yarn across them to make a
 triangular shape. *

35 OLIVE 35
 I'm using this yellow yarn, so it
 looks like it's in the sun. *

Ari has his back turned to them. We see his arms flying as he
 works on his web, but we can't see what he's doing.

36 OLIVE (CONT'D) 36 *
 What colour is your spider web
 going to be, Ari?

Ari still has his back to them, but he's not working on his
 web anymore.

37 ARI 37
 Not "going to be." I'm done.

Elinor and Olive look surprised. Ari turns around to show a
 big messy tangle of yarn, which looks like a TANGLE WEB.

38 ARI (CONT'D) 38
 Ta da! A spiderweb.

Elinor and Olive look at each other, puzzled.

39 ELINOR 39
 Mmm, I don't think a spiderweb
 looks like that.

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TRADITIONAL ORB WEB.

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Ari looks puzzled and Olive looks surprised.

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in a triangle shape, like a TRIANGLE WEB.

The three of them look confused. Mz. Mole comes over.

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As the kids show her their webs, Mz. Mole pauses to think.

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The kids react with realization.

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Elinor gets an idea and leads the way outside. *

48

*
*

49	OLIVE	49	
	Good idea Elinor. If we find a		*
	spiderweb, we'll know how to make		*
	one that looks like the real thing.		*

They look to Mz. Mole who nods in approval. <SFX: EXCITED WALLA> as they head out. Mz. Mole watches and <SFX: CHUCKLES>.

4. EXT. SCHOOLYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Outside the kids are hunting around looking for a web. Elinor looks around a tree. Olive peers into some shrubs. Ari is investigating the other side of the shrubs.

50	ELINOR	50	
	Have you found one yet?		

51	ARI	51	
	Nothing here.		

Suddenly, Olive pops up just on the other side of the shrub, startling Ari.

52	OLIVE	52	
	Nothing here either.		

Ari does a back flip.

53	ARI	53	
	Aaah!		

He immediately leaps to his feet.

54	ARI (CONT'D)	54	
	I wasn't scared.		

Olive	<SFX: GIGGLE> as Elinor joins the two of them. Ari tries to act as if nothing happened.	*
		*

55	ARI (CONT'D)	55	*
	Are you going to look for spiderwebs or not?		*
			*

SERIES OF SHOTS:	Elinor, Olive and Ari look for spiders in various spots around the schoolyard.	*
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End with shot of Elinor standing underneath a branch. Ari and Olive come and join her.

56 ELINOR 56
I haven't seen any spiderwebs. Or
spiders. Maybe we're looking in the
wrong place. *

ON: Olive, whose face lights up.

57 OLIVE 57
You're right Elinor. You should
look up.

Elinor's eyes go up and there's a spider walking upside down
on the branch above her. She breaks out in a big smile.

58 ELINOR 58
(gasp) A spider.

Ari comes over to get a closer look.

59 ARI 59
Okay, we've found a spider, but
where's its web?

60 OLIVE 60
Let's watch where it goes.

They watch for a second, and then <SFX: WHOOSH!> The spider
drops through the frame. We see their surprised faces.

61 ELINOR 61
Oh no. It fell.

62 ARI 62
I hope it didn't hurt itself. *

But then Elinor crouches down and looks amazed as she sees
the spider suspended by a thin silky strand.

63 ELINOR 63
Huh. It didn't fall on the ground.
Look. *

Ari and Olive drop down to see.

64 ELINOR (CONT'D) 64
It's hanging from a really thin
kind of thread.

65 ARI 65
Where'd that come from?

The spider starts weaving its web.

66 OLIVE 66
Ooh. It looks like it's making its own thread. Maybe that's what it makes its web from. *

Elinor points to the spider which is quickly creating a web. They follow its movements, with great curiosity.

67 ELINOR 67
You're right Olive. Look how it climbs up the thread and then makes another one. That's so cool. *

68 ARI 68
Yeah. But it's going to take a long time to make a whole web. *

Olive looks at the spider climbing up a strand and nods.

69 OLIVE 69
You're right Ari. Maybe we should look for one that's already made.

Ari nods, and they start to head off, but Elinor stays put.

70 ELINOR 70
You go ahead. I'm going to stay and watch this spider make its web. It's SO interesting! *

71 OLIVE 71
OK. We'll let you know if we find one. *

Olive and Ari split up, looking in different place for a spiderweb.

ANGLE ON: Olive is searching through some bushes

72 OLIVE (CONT'D) 72
Okay spiders. Come out, come out wherever you are.

Suddenly she sees a SPIDER skittering along a leaf. It's a DIFFERENT LOOKING SPIDER from the one they saw earlier.

73 OLIVE (CONT'D) 73
There's one. Hello little spider. Oh. You look different from the spider we saw before. Now if you could just lead me to your web.

She keeps following it, as...

ANGLE ON: Ari is searching through a thicket. He provides his own commentary.

74	ARI	74
	And as Ari, the World's Greatest Spider Finder searches the forest, he sees ...	*

Suddenly he spots a spider, which is A DIFFERENT KIND OF SPIDER.

75 ARI (CONT'D) 75
Cool. A spider! And where there's a
spider, there must be a spiderweb.

He follows the spider, as ...

ANGLE ON: Elinor is watching her spider spin its web. It's much more formed than it was earlier. Its lines stretch out, starting to look like a TRIANGLE WEB.

76 ELINOR 76
Wow. Look at how fast you can make
a web. I bet it's going to look
just like mine.

She looks at the web. <SFX: WALLA: HMMM>. *

ANGLE ON: Olive, who looks a bit disappointed.

77 OLIVE 77
Hmmm ... That's not what I
expected.

We see that she's looking at the spider, who is sitting in the middle of a TANGLE WEB in the bushes.

78 OLIVE (CONT'D) 78
So that's your spiderweb? It looks *
just like the one Ari made. *

A THOUGHT BUBBLE appears above her head, showing Ari holding his tangle web model.

79 OLIVE (CONT'D) 79
I guess he was right.

ANGLE ON: Ari is backing up in the thicket, looking around ... when he suddenly feels something behind him - a spider web!

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88	OLIVE	88	
	But the web I found looked like Ari's model.		
89	ARI	89	
	And the web I found looked just like the one Elinor made.		*
	Elinor gets a thought. She turns to Ari.		*
90	ELINOR	90	*
	Wait. What did your spider look like?		
91	ARI	91	
	It was way different from the first one we saw.		
92	OLIVE	92	
	Mine was different too.		
93	ELINOR	93	
	That's SO interesting.		
	Olive smiles knowingly.		
94	OLIVE	94	
	I think I know what you're thinking, Elinor.		*
			*
95	ARI	95	
	What? What are you two thinking that I'm not thinking?		
96	ELINOR	96	*
	Maybe different kinds of spiders make...		*
			*
	She waits for Ari to figure it out. And he does!		*
97	ARI	97	
	Aha! Make different kinds of webs!		*
98	OLIVE	98	
	So there are different kinds of spiderwebs.		*
99	ELINOR	99	
	Just like there are different ways to think about Halloween.		*
100	OLIVE	100	
	Awesome! Let's go tell Mz. Mole.		*

They race back to the classroom.

5. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari race into the classroom. <SFX: EXCITED WALLA>

They <SFX: SCREECH> to a stop when they see what looks like a ghost floating through the room!

101 ARI 101
 (Gasp!) It's a g-ghost!!

Ari dives under a desk. From behind the "ghost", Mz. Mole
peeks out, and we see that it's a sheet that she's about to
hang in the corner.

102 MZ. MOLE 102
Ari? Are you okay?

Ari, realizing his mistake, slides out from under the desk.

103 ARI 103
Sure. I was just ... um ...
checking out for ghosts under the
desk. It's all clear.

Elinor and Olive <SFX: GIGGLE> as Ari joins them, as they
make their way over to where their models are.

104 MZ. MOLE 104
Did you find a spiderweb?

105 ELINOR 105
We didn't find **a** spiderweb, Mz.
Mole.

106	MZ. MOLE	106
Oh?		

107 ELINOR 107
We found **three** spiderwebs.

108	MZ. MOLE	108
Oh!		

109 OLIVE 109
And they were all different.

110 ARI 110
Because the ***spiders*** were all
different.

111 MZ. MOLE 111
Well aren't you clever. You figured
out that different kinds of spiders
make different kinds of webs.

Mz. Mole gestures to the three models the kids made. They beam with pride. *

112 ELINOR 112
So we were ALL right. Cool. Let's
get decorating. *

As Elinor, Olive and Ari finish their webs (making them bigger) and hang them in different parts of the classroom: The other kids join in hanging their own decoration as the kids sing.

SONG: MORE THAN ONE WAY

113 ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI 113
*ELINOR: You do it that way
And I do it this way.
OLIVE: We each have our own way.
ARI: And that's okay!
ALL: 'Cause there's more than one
way
To do almost everything.
And each of those ways is great,
right?
Yes, each of those ways is great!
BOO!*

Reacting to a scary Halloween decoration.

*ELINOR: Just like a spider making a
web
OLIVE: We each do our own thing,
ARI: And that's okay!
ALL: 'Cause there's more than one
way
To do almost everything.
And each of those ways is great,
right?
Yes, each of those ways is great!* *

By the end of their song, they've finished hanging their three different webs around the class, and the other decorations are in place.

Mz. Mole looks around admiring them.

114 MZ. MOLE 114
Your spider web decorations are
wonderful! And you know what I like
best about them?

Elinor, Olive and Ari don't know but they're eager to hear
her answer.

115 MZ. MOLE (CONT'D) 115
They're all different. Just like
you!

<SFX: HAPPY WALLA>