

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 164 Butterfly Party

By: Katherine Sandford

Elinor's Question: How can we get the butterflies to come to Olive's back yard?

Logline: It's Olive's Mom's birthday and the kids want to throw her a butterfly party, but they need REAL butterflies.

Cirriculum Goals: LS5. Begin to understand that animals depend on other living things in the environment to meet some of their needs: (Elinor observes that the butterflies prefer certain flowers that provide them with nectar).

ND2. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Systems'): Begin to understand that systems developed in our world often work in similar ways to systems found in the natural world. (Elinor and her friends decide to plant a garden that includes flowers that the butterflies naturally prefer).

SEP1. Asking questions (science) and defining problems (engineering)

- b. Ask more complex questions about observable phenomena
- c. Ask and/or identify cause and effect questions that can be answered by an investigation
- d. Identify a problem that can be solved by the design of a new or improved object or tool (engineering) (Elinor and her friends question why there are no butterflies in Olive's garden, and when they realize through investigation that it's because there aren't any of the flowers that butterflies prefer, they design a butterfly garden.)

SEP3. Planning and carrying out investigations

- b. Compare and contrast objects and events by describing similarities and differences in detail
- c. Demonstrate an ability to make and test predictions based on background knowledge and experiences
- e. Design and build a solution to a simple problem (Elinor and her friends compare and contrast the flowers to find the ones the butterflies prefer, they predict that if they plant those flowers in Olive's yard, the butterflies will come.

Then they make the butterfly garden, and it works!)

OUTLINE: January 8, 2020

FIRST DRAFT: February 5, 2020

1. EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE (FRONT DOOR) -- DAY

ELINOR hops up to Olive's house, with ARI right behind her.

1 ELINOR 1
I hope Olive is ready for another
great play day.

Elinor knocks on the door and OLIVE'S MOM opens it.

2 OLIVE'S MOM 2
Well, hello kids.

ARI
Hi, Mz. Elephant.

4 ELINOR 4
Can Olive come out and...

Suddenly OLIVE peeks out from behind her Mom with a big smile on her face.

5 OLIVE'S MOM 5
Ari! Elinor! You're just in time.

She grabs her friends by the hands and pulls them inside.

2. INT. OLIVE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Olive takes her friends to the side, away from her mother.

6 ELINOR 6
What is it Olive?

7 ARI 7
Yeah, you sure seem....

Olive shushes him with a friendly <SFX: SHUSHHHH WALLA> as her mother walks by.

8 ARI (CONT'D) 8
 (whispering)
 ...excited.

Olive can't wait to share her news.

9 OLIVE 9
(bubbling with joy)
I AM excited! Guess what? Today is
my Mom's birthday! And I was
thinking...let's have a PARTY!

10 ARI 10

That's a FANTASTIC idea, Olive. We
could have a pirate party, like I
had on my birthday - Arrrrgh.

He does a little pirate pretend-playing.

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11                               ELINOR                               11
    Or a bunny-hopping party, like the
    one I had.
        (Elinor starts hopping
         around)
    Now that was a HOPPY birthday!

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Olive smiles at her friend's energy.

12 OLIVE 12
(giggling)
You sure do like to hop, Elinor.

Ari jumps in front.

ARI

13

And I like PIRATES! ARRRGH!

14 ELINOR 14
Maybe we should plan a party around
something Mz. Elephant likes. What
does your Mom like, Olive?

15 OLIVE 15
Good question. I'm not sure.

16 ELINOR 16
Then let's find out...with some
observation!

3. INT. OLIVE'S KITCHEN - DAY

Olive, Elinor and Ari poke their noses around the corner and watch Olive's Mom closely, trying to keep quiet so she doesn't see them (it's not easy, much <SFX: GIGGLING WALLA>).

17 ELINOR 17
 (whispering giggling)
Let's observe your mom and see what
she likes.

ANGLE ON: Olive's Mom puts the last dish away, then settles at the kitchen table with a cup of tea and a magazine (with a butterfly on the cover).

18 OLIVE 18
Wait a minute....look at my Mom's
magazine.

ANGLE ON: The cover of her Mom's magazine. A butterfly.

19 ELINOR 19
There's a picture of a butterfly.

20 OLIVE 20
And her apron.

ANGLE ON: The butterfly apron.

21 ARI 21
Another butterfly.

22 OLIVE 22
And her mug...

ANGLE ON: The butterfly mug.

23 ELINOR 23
I'm starting to see a pattern here.

QUICK CU's on various butterfly decorations all around the
kitchen.

BACK ON: Olive figures it out.

24 OLIVE 24
Butterflies! My mom loves
butterflies.

25 ELINOR 25
Yes! Let's have a butterfly party.

ANGLE ON: At that moment Olive's mom hears them.

26 OLIVE'S MOM 26
(calling)
What are you kids up to?

27 OLIVE 27
(calling)
Nothing, Mom! We're just going to
play outside, okay?

28 OLIVE'S MOM 28
(calling)
OK, have fun. And say hello to the
butterflies...

Off they go.

4. EXT. OLIVE'S BACK YARD - DAY

The kids are in the back yard, near the flower garden.

29	ELINOR	29
	Wow, your back yard is so nice Olive. Look at all the FLOWERS.	

ANGLE ON the beautiful flower garden, lots of pansies, lilies and roses. NOTE: It should NOT contain any of the flowers identified as "butterfly flowers" (i.e. Milkweed, marigolds, asters, phlox, sunflower, black-eyed susans)

30	OLIVE	30
	Yep, my mom and I planted them -- this is my part of the garden.	

Olive points to a little section.

31	ELINOR	31
	It's the perfect place for a butterfly party.	

32	ARI	32
	So what do we need?	

33	OLIVE	33
	Well my mom already has butterfly plates and napkins and decorations... So all we need are - BUTTERFLIES!	

34	ARI	34
	You mean REAL butterflies?	

35	OLIVE	35
	YES! Then it'll be a REAL butterfly party.	

36	ELINOR	36
	Shouldn't be too hard. I've seen lots of butterflies fluttering around lately.	

They wait for a beat, looking around.

37	ARI	37
	Welp. No butterflies yet.	

38	OLIVE	38
	Maybe we should try calling them. (calling) Butterflies!	

ANGLE ON: The farther flowery part of the field, with lots of butterflies.

48 OLIVE 48
<GASP!> BUTTERFLIES!!

49 ELINOR 49
Come on!

They run over to the part of the meadow that's dotted with wildflowers - and butterflies.

50 OLIVE 50
(addressing the butterflies)
Oh, butterflies...

51 ELINOR 51
We want you to come to a party in Olive's yard.

52 ARI 52
It's over...
(he antics, pointing comically with his whole body)
...THIS way.

53 OLIVE 53
Just flutter over to my house, butterflies. I have a really nice garden.

Olive flutters along like a butterfly for a beat, then turns.

54 OLIVE (CONT'D) 54
(disappointed)
They're not coming.

55 ELINOR 55
They just stay fluttering in the field.

56 ARI 56
Why do they like it here so much?

57 OLIVE 57
Dun, dun, DUNNN - it's a mystery, a butterfly mystery...

58 ELINOR 58
We need MORE observations.

59 ARI 59
I know! Let's watch the butterflies
the same way we watched Olive's
mom.

60 OLIVE 60
Good idea. That way we can see
what they like about this field.

Olive, Ari and Elinor crouch down behind some tall grass. The watch the pretty scene of the butterflies fluttering around the flowers for a beat or two.

61 ARI 61
Maybe the butterflies are all in a
club - like our EXPLORING Club.

62 ELINOR 62
And the long grass is their
clubhouse.

63 OLIVE 63
Only...they didn't like the grassy
spot. They like it here, with the
FLOWERS.

64 ARI 64
It's true. The butterflies sure
like these flowers. Especially that
one.

ANGLE ON - a Milkweed flower, with lots of butterflies fluttering around.

65 ELINOR 65
That's just like the bees we saw
before. They liked certain flowers
too.

66 ARI 66
Do you have flowers like that in
your garden, Olive?

67 OLIVE 67
No. I've never seen a round flower
like that one before. It's kind of
weird, but pretty.

68 ARI 68
 Maybe it's an ALIEN flower.

A THOUGHT BUBBLE appears with the milkweed flowers coming out of a spaceship and greeting some other flowers.

69 ARI (CONT'D) 69
 (alien voice)
 Beep-beep-boop. Take us to your
 flower leader.

Elinor and Olive <SFX: LAUGH> Then suddenly the kids hear
 someone <SFX: HUMMING>

70 ARI (CONT'D) 70
 <GASP!> It's the aliens!

The thought bubble BURSTS.

71 OLIVE 71
 Aliens that hum?

72 ELINOR 72
 And they're humming over THERE.
 Come on!

The kids run OS.

6. EXT. MZ. MOLE'S GARDEN - DAY

The kids are following the <SFX: HUMMING>

73 ARI 73
 Beep-boop-bop, I've never met a
 real alien before. I wonder what
 they look like.

Elinor is the one who sees....

74 ELINOR 74
 Mz. MOLE?

ANGLE ON: Mz. Mole who is transplanting some butterfly-
 friendly flowers into pots.

75 OLIVE 75
 You're not an alien!

76 MZ. MOLE 76
 I'm not?
 (she looks down at
 herself, confirming)
 You're right, I'm NOT!

77 ARI 77
 What are you doing here, Mz. Mole?
 This isn't school.

78	MZ. MOLE	78
	No, this is my house. Welcome!	
79	ARI	79
	(gob-smacked)	
	Teachers have HOUSES?	
80	MZ. MOLE	80
	Yep, and gardens too.	
	She gestures.	
81	OLIVE	81
	Wow you sure have a lot of nice flowers, Mz. Mole.	
82	ELINOR	82
	And LOTS of butterflies!	
83	ARI	83
	Just what we need!	
84	MZ. MOLE	84
	Butterflies? Why do you need butterflies?	
85	OLIVE	85
	For my mom's birthday. She loves butterflies. So we want to surprise her with a BUTTERFLY party.	
86	MZ. MOLE	86
	Oh, what a wonderful idea.	
87	ELINOR	87
	And we've observed that the butterflies really like these ALIEN flowers.	
	She points to the Milkweed, with butterflies hovering around.	
88	MZ. MOLE	88
	(laughing)	
	They do look like alien flowers. But they're actually called milkweed. And you're right, the butterflies like them. And they also like marigolds, sunflowers, asters, lavender, black-eyed susans and phlox.	
	She points to each flower in turn.	

89	ELINOR	89
	Wait a minute. Maybe if Olive had some of these flowers in her garden...	
90	ARI	90
	(realizing) ...then the butterflies would come, because they like the flowers...	
91	OLIVE	91
	...and we'd have a REAL butterfly party!	
92	MZ. MOLE	92
	That should work. What smart scientists you are! Why don't you take some of my flowers to plant in Olive's garden. I have plenty.	
93	ARI	93
	Really? We can do that?	
94	MZ. MOLE	94
	Sure. When you take a flower from one garden and plant it in another garden, that's called transplanting.	
95	OLIVE	95
	Transplanting. I LIKE that word.	
96	MZ. MOLE	96
	I'll show you how.	

7. GARDEN PLANTING MONTAGE

As they sing, Mz. Mole supervises the kids as they dig up
some of the plants from her garden, put them in pots (in a
wagon), then go and transplant them into Olive's garden.

97	ELINOR, OLIVE, ARI	97
	OLIVE: Butterflies love flowers, We all know it's true, ELINOR: And they have their favorites, Just like me and you.	
	ARI: To have butterflies around, Just listen to our song, ELINOR: Plant the flowers that they like, And they will come along. (MORE)	

ELINOR, OLIVE, ARI (CONT'D)

OLIVE: Marigold and milkweed
Lavender and phlox
ELINOR: These are the flowers
That butterflies like a lot

ARI: Sunflowers and Asters
Black-eyed Susans too
ELINOR: When you plant the flowers
that they like,
ALL: The butterflies will come to
youoooooooo!

8. EXT. OLIVE'S BACK YARD (WITH BUTTERFLY GARDEN) -- DAY

The back yard is decorated with the butterfly decorations
from the house, and we see butterfly plates and napkins.
There's also a new butterfly garden (In Olive's section)

Olive leads her mother out of the house with her eyes closed.

98	OLIVE	98
	Okay, Mom, you can open your eyes now.	

99	OLIVE, ARI, ELINOR, MZ. MOLE	99
	SURPRISE!	

100	ARI	100
	Welcome to your butterfly party.	

101	ELINOR	101
	With real BUTTERFLIES!	

Olive's Mom looks around in wonder.

102	OLIVE'S MOM	102
	Wooooow.	

103	OLIVE	103
	Happy Butterfly Birthday, Mom.	

Olive gives her Mom a big hug.

104	OLIVE'S MOM	104
	Aww, thank you so much, kids. (then she notices) Mz. Mole? What are you doing here?	

105	MZ. MOLE	105
	Happy birthday, Mz. Elephant. I'm here as a butterfly garden helper.	

106 ELINOR 106
We wanted butterflies for your
party, Mz. Elephant, and we
OBSERVED they liked certain
flowers...

107 OLIVE 107
...that we didn't have in our
garden, but Mz. Mole DID!

108 ARI 108
So Mz. Mole said we could take some
of her flowers, because she has
lots.

109 OLIVE 109
And we TRANSPLANTED them into our
garden, to see if the butterflies
would come.

110 ELINOR 110
And they DID!!

111 OLIVE'S MOM 111
Wow, did they ever!! Look at all
these beautiful butterflies.

ANGLE ON: The garden and the fluttering butterflies - beauty!

112 OLIVE'S MOM (CONT'D) 112
You kids really know what flowers
the butterflies like. But how did
you know that I love butterflies so
much.

113 ELINOR 113
Oh, I don't know.

ANGLE ON: Olive's Mom's butterfly pendant, butterfly apron
and butterfly decorations. WIDEN as Ari, Olive and Elinor
share a smile.

114 ELINOR (CONT'D) 114
Just a lucky guess, I guess.

Everyone <SFX: LAUGHS> as Olive hugs her Mom.

THE END