

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

SECOND DRAFT; February 26, 2020

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

It's a beautiful summer day and ELINOR hops along in a fluttery way as she follows a butterfly. <SFX: OOOH WALLA>. Suddenly ARI runs OS.

1 ARI
Elinor, come on, we're almost at
Olives house.

2 ELINOR
Oh, right. Coming.
(to the butterfly)
See you later, butterfly.

The butterfly flutters away as they get to the front door.
Elinor <SFX: KNOCKS> and OLIVE'S MOM opens it.

3 OLIVE'S MOM
Well, hello kids.

4 ARI
Hi, Mz. Elephant.

5 ELINOR
Can Olive come out and...

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

6 OLIVE
Ari! Elinor! Come with me...
 (She grabs her friends by
 the hands and pulls them
 inside.)
Thanks Mom!

7 OLIVE'S MOM
(surprised)
OH! Okay, well, have fun kids.

2. INT. OLIVE'S ROOM - DAY

Olive takes her friends into her room.

8 ELINOR
What is it Olive?

9 ARI
Yeah, you sure seem....

Olive shushes him with her trunk and a friendly <SFX: SHUSHHHH WALLA> as her mother walks by the door on her way to the kitchen. *

10 ARI (CONT'D) 10
(whispering)
...excited.

Olive can't wait to share her news.

11 OLIVE 11
(bubbling with joy)
I AM excited! Guess what? Today is my Mom's birthday!

12 ELINOR/ARI 12 *
Really?/Awesome! *

13 OLIVE 13 *
And I want to do something really special for her. *

14 ARI 14 *
Like what? *

15 OLIVE 15 *
I was thinking...let's have a BIRTHDAY PARTY for her! *

16 ARI 16
That's a FANTASTIC idea, Olive. We could have a pirate party, like I had on my birthday - Arrrgh.

He does a little pirate pretend-playing.

17 ELINOR 17
Or a bunny-hopping party, like the one I had.
(Elinor starts hopping around)
Now that was a HOPPY birthday!

Olive smiles at her friend's energy.

18 OLIVE 18
(giggling)
You sure do like to hop, Elinor.

Ari jumps in front.

19 ARI 19 *
And don't forget - I like PIRATES! *
ARRRGH!

20	OLIVE Buu-ut, I'm not sure my Mom is really into pirates...or bunny hops.	20	* * * *
21	ELINOR Right. We should plan a party around something <i>she</i> likes.	21	* * *
22	ARI OK, what does your Mom like, Olive?	22	* *
23	OLIVE Good question. I'm not sure.	23	*
24	ELINOR Then let's find out...come on.	24	*

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>).

25	ELINOR (whispering giggling) Let's observe your mom and see what she likes.	25	
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).			
26	ARI She likes sitting quietly.	26	* *
27	OLIVE Yeah, but a sitting quietly party doesn't seem like that much fun.	27	* * *
28	ELINOR Wait a minute....look at your Mom's magazine.	28	* *
ANGLE ON: The cover of Olive's Mom's magazine. A butterfly.			
29	ARI There's a picture of a butterfly.	29	*
30	ELINOR And her apron.	30	*
21	ANGLE ON: The butterfly apron.	21	*

31	ARI	31	*
	Another butterfly.		
32	ELINOR	32	*
	And her pin!		*
	(ANGLE ON: The butterfly		*
	pin)		*
	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.			
33	OLIVE	33	
	Butterflies! My mom loves		
	butterflies. She has butterfly		*
	decorations on EVERYTHING!		*
34	ARI	34	*
	Yeah, there's butterfly stuff		*
	everywhere.		*
35	ELINOR	35	
	<GASP!> Let's have a butterfly		*
	party!		*
ANGLE ON: At that moment Olive's mom hears them.			
36	OLIVE'S MOM	36	
	(calling)		
	What are you kids up to?		
37	OLIVE	37	
	(calling)		
	Nothing, Mom! We're just going to		
	play outside, okay?		
38	OLIVE'S MOM	38	
	(calling)		
	OK, have fun.		*
Off they go.			
4. EXT. OLIVE'S BACK YARD - DAY			
The kids are in the back yard, near the flower garden.			
39	ELINOR	39	
	I think your mom would love a		*
	butterfly party. We could have it		*
	right here in your yard. Your		*
	garden is so nice.		*

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)

40 OLIVE 40
Thanks! My mom and I planted it -- *

Olive points to a little section.

41 ELINOR 41
It's the perfect place for a butterfly party.

42 ARI 42
OK, so what do we need? *

43 OLIVE 43
Well, my mom already has butterfly plates and napkins and decorations... *

44 ARI 44
Wait a minute...we should get some REAL butterflies! *

45 OLIVE 45
YES! Then it'll be a REAL butterfly party.

THOUGHT BUBBLE: medium shot of Olive's Mom with a birthday hat surrounded by butterflies. *

46 ELINOR 46
Awesome! Let's find some butterflies to come to the party. *

They wait for a beat, looking around.

47 ARI 47
Welp. No butterflies around here. *

48 OLIVE 48
Maybe we should try calling them.
(calling)
Butterflies!

49 ARI 49
(Calling)
Oh, BUUUTERFLIES!

50	ELINOR	50	
	(calling)		
	We want you to come to Olive's		*
	Mom's party!		*
A beat. No butterflies.			
51	OLIVE	51	
	STILL no butterflies.		
52	ARI	52	*
	Maybe we should deliver them some		*
	Birthday Party invitations?		*
53	OLIVE	53	*
	Hmmm. I don't think butterflies		*
	have houses to deliver to, Ari.		*
54	ELINOR	54	*
	But I know there are butterflies		*
	around here somewhere.		*
55	ARI	55	*
	Yeah, we just saw some a little		*
	while ago.		*
56	ELINOR	56	*
	Let's go find them - come on!		*
The kids run off-screen.			*

5. EXT. MEADOW BESIDE OLIVE'S HOUSE - DAY

WIDE SHOT REVEALS: the kids running over to the field next door - part of it is just grass, but the farther part of the field has the flowers butterflies like (marigolds, milkweed, sunflowers, asters, black-eyed susans, phlox).

57	OLIVE	57	
	(calling)		
	Butterflies! Butterflies!		
58	ARI	58	
	(calling)		
	Butter-butter-butter-FLIES!!		
59	ELINOR	59	*
	I wonder where all the butterflies		*
	are.		*

The kids search around the grassy area for a beat or two, looking in the tall grass, behind a tree etc.

60	ARI	60	*
	I don't see any around here.		
	Suddenly Elinor notices something.		
61	ELINOR	61	*
	Look over THERE!		
	ANGLE ON: The farther flowery part of the field, with lots of butterflies.		
62	OLIVE	62	
	<GASP!> BUTTERFLIES!!		
63	ELINOR	63	
	Come on!		
	They run over to the part of the meadow that's dotted with wildflowers - and butterflies.		
64	OLIVE	64	*
	Wow, look at how many butterflies there are here.		*
65	ELINOR	65	*
	(to butterflies)		*
	Butterflies, we're having a birthday party for Olive's mom and we would love it if you came.		*
66	ARI	66	*
	Yeah, it's over...		*
	(he antics, pointing comically with his whole body)		*
	...THIS way. C'mon.		*
67	OLIVE	67	*
	Just fly over to my house, butterflies. I have a really nice garden.		*
	(Olive flutters along like a butterfly for a beat, then turns, disappointed)		*
	They're not coming.		
68	ELINOR	68	*
	They're just staying in this field.		
69	ARI	69	*
	I wonder why they like it here so much and not in Olive's garden?		*

70	OLIVE	70	
	Dun, dun, DUNNN - it's a mystery, a butterfly mystery...		
71	ELINOR	71	
	We need MORE observations.		*
	Olive, Ari and Elinor crouch down behind some tall grass. They watch the pretty scene of the butterflies fluttering around the flowers for a beat or two.		*
72	ELINOR (CONT'D)	72	*
	OK, what's the difference between this field and the garden at Olive's house?		*
			*
			*
73	ARI	73	*
	Both places have lots of sun.		*
74	OLIVE	74	
	And both places have lots of flowers.		*
			*
	Elinor looks closely ANGLE ON: we see several shots of the butterflies only hanging out near one type of flower (a Milkweed flower).		*
75	ELINOR	75	*
	Yeah, the butterflies seem to REALLY like this round flower. Olive, do you have that flower in your garden?		*
			*
			*
76	OLIVE	76	
	I don't think so.		*
77	ELINOR	77	*
	(Penny drops)		*
	Maybe that's why the butterflies like it here and not in your garden. They like this special kind of flower.		*
			*
78	OLIVE	78	*
	So how can we get the butterflies to come to my garden if we don't have these special flowers they like?		*
			*
			*
79	ARI	79	*
	Hmmm, well we already tried asking nicely. So how about...		*
	(MORE)		*

ARI (CONT'D)
 (Then suddenly the kids
 hear someone <SFX:
 HUMMING>)
 ...hummming? *

80 OLIVE 80 *
 Who is humming? *

81 ELINOR 81 *
 Let's go and find out. *

And off they go. *

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

The kids are following the <SFX: HUMMING> Elinor is the one
 who sees.... *

82 ELINOR 82 *
 Mz. MOLE? *

83 MZ. MOLE 83 *
 Hey kids, welcome to my house. *

84 ARI 84
 (gob-smacked)
 Teachers have HOUSES?

85 MZ. MOLE 85 *
 We sure do, Ari, and gardens too.

She gestures.

86 OLIVE 86 *
 With lots of amazing flowers.

87 ELINOR 87
 And LOTS of butterflies!

88 ARI 88 *
 Just what we were looking for!

89 MZ. MOLE 89 *
 Butterflies? Why are you looking
 for butterflies? *

90 OLIVE 90
 For my mom's birthday. She loves
 butterflies. So we want to surprise
 her with a BUTTERFLY party.

91 MZ. MOLE 91
 Oh, what a wonderful idea.

92	ELINOR	92	
	We were looking for butterflies to		*
	come to the party, and then we		*
	observed they like a special kind		*
	of flower. This one!		*
	She points to the Milkweed, with butterflies hovering around.		
93	MZ. MOLE	93	
	(laughing)		
	You're right, Elinor! Butterflies		*
	do like some flowers more than		*
	others. Lots of animals in Nature		*
	prefer certain plants. That one is		*
	called a milkweed.		*
	The kids <SFX: OOOH, AHH WALLA>		
94	MZ. MOLE (CONT'D)	94	
	But butterflies also like		*
	marigolds, sunflowers, asters,		*
	lavender, black-eyed susans and		*
	phlox.		*
	She points to each flower in turn. <SFX: WOOW AWESOME WALLA>		
95	OLIVE	95	
	Wow, I wish I could have these		*
	flowers in my garden. Then the		*
	butterflies would come to my mom's		*
	party for sure.		*
	Elinor and Ari agree <SFX: YEAH WALLA>		
96	MZ. MOLE	96	
	You can have these flowers!		*
97	ELINOR	97	
	But how? We don't have time to		*
	plant them and wait for them to		*
	grow.		*
98	MZ. MOLE	98	
	Take some of mine! I have extra and		*
	I was going to dig them out anyway.		*
99	OLIVE	99	
	We can take some of your flowers?		*
100	MZ. MOLE	100	
	Sure! In gardening, it's OK to move		*
	plants from one spot to another.		*
	It's called 'transplanting'.		*

101 OLIVE 101
Transplanting. I LIKE that word.

102 MZ. MOLE 102
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.

103 ELINOR, OLIVE, ARI 103

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.

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,
OLIVE: The butterflies will come to
you!

ALL: Butterflies love flowers,
We all know it's true,
And they have their favorites,
Just like me and youoooo.

After they plant the flowers in Olive's garden, one butterfly
flutters in.

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.

104	OLIVE	104	
	Okay, Mom, you can open your eyes now.		
105	OLIVE, ARI, ELINOR, MZ. MOLE	105	
	SURPRISE!		
106	ARI	106	
	Welcome to your butterfly party.		
107	ELINOR	107	
	With real BUTTERFLIES!		
	Olive's Mom looks around in wonder.		
108	OLIVE'S MOM	108	
	Wooooow. This is WONDERFUL.		*
109	OLIVE	109	
	Happy Butterfly Birthday, Mom.		
	Olive gives her Mom a big hug.		
110	OLIVE'S MOM	110	
	Aww, thank you so much, kids.		
	(then she notices)		
	Mz. Mole? What a nice surprise to see you!		*
			*
111	MZ. MOLE	111	
	Happy birthday, Mz. Elephant. I'm here as a butterfly garden helper.		
112	ELINOR	112	
	We wanted real butterflies for your party, Mz. Elephant, so we OBSERVED some.		*
			*
			*
113	OLIVE	113	
	And we learned that they like some kinds of flowers more than others.		*
			*
114	ARI	114	
	So Mz. Mole helped us bring some of her butterfly flowers and plant them here.		*
			*
			*
115	OLIVE	115	
	We TRANSPLANTED them into our garden, to see if the butterflies would come.		*
116	ELINOR	116	
	And they DID!!		

117 OLIVE'S MOM 117
Wow, did they ever!! Look at all
these beautiful butterflies.

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

118 OLIVE'S MOM (CONT'D) 118
You kids really know what flowers
the butterflies like. But how did
you figure out that I love *
butterflies so much? *

119 ELINOR 119
Oh, it wasn't that hard, Mz. *
Elephant. *

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

120 ELINOR (CONT'D) 120
We just OBSERVED you. *

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

THE END