

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP#167 Just Peachy

Written by Tom Berger

Elinor's Question: Where did all the peaches go?

Logline: When Elinor and her friends run out of peaches, they learn that fruits are seasonal and only available at certain times of the year.

Curriculum Goals:

LS4: Understand that all plants have a life cycle and can change and grow over time (Elinor and her friends learn that different fruits grow in different seasons).

SEP1: Demonstrate curiosity about the greater world outside of their local environment (Elinor's question leads them to discover an answer at the farm).

Outline: Feb. 24, 2020
First Draft: March 17, 2020

It's a late summer afternoon and ELINOR, OLIVE, and ARI are helping MR. RABBIT pick PEACHES from the PEACH TREE in their backyard. The tree only has ten or so peaches remaining.

2 ELINOR 2
I can, easy-peachy! I'm a peach
plucking pro.

3 ARI 3
I'm a peach-pro too. My specialty
is getting the hard to reach ones.

4 ELINOR 4
Nice moves, Ari.

6 OLIVE (CONT'D) 6
I'm an expert peach juggler.

7 ELINOR 7
Look at these delicious peaches.
What do we do with them all?

8 MR. RABBIT 8
Have a snack, of course.

The kids eagerly dig in, each grabbing a peach from the basket. They <CHOMP> into them happily.

9 ELINOR 9
Mmmm! I think this is the best
peach I've ever had.

Ari points to his peach.

10 ARI 10
I dunno, this one's pretty good
too. Are you sure yours is better?

11 ELINOR 11
Only one way to find out.

She takes a BITE out of Ari's peach.

12 ELINOR (CONT'D) 12
Mmmm... they're *both* amazing.

The kids share a <LAUGH> and finish their snacks.

13 OLIVE 13

So yummy... I'm stuffed. And look
how many there are left.

They look into the basket, still quite full of peaches.

14 ELINOR 14
 Hmm... maybe we should share the
 rest of these with our friends.

15 MR. RABBIT 15
Great idea, everyone loves peaches!

The kids pick up the basket and bound off to deliver peaches.

2. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - MONTAGE

CLUBHOUSE - The kids approach and knock on the clubhouse door. MARY pokes her head out of a window and Ari gives her a peach. LIZZIE pokes her head out of another window and Elinor gives her a peach as well. **WIPE**

SALLY'S HOUSE - Sally is working on a small project in her yard, cutting a BOARD. The kids arrive and place a peach in her TOOLBOX, unnoticed. She reaches for a hammer and grabs a peach instead. Briefly confused, she spots the waving kids and has a happy bite. **WIPE**

DOWNTOWN: The gang hands out peaches to TOWNSFOLK as they pass: MZ. MOLE, MR. RACCOON, etc. They give a peach to JOE MOUSE. GEE RAFFE lowers her head into frame and they give her one too. As KAI and SILAS approach, the kids reach into the basket and discover... it's empty!

16 OLIVE 16
Oh no! The basket's empty.

17 ARI 17
Peach pits! We ran out of peaches
before we ran out of friends.
(to Silas and Kai)
Sorry guys.

Kai and Silas slump.

18 ELINOR 18
Don't worry, we can *always* get more
from the peach tree... c'mon.

Kai and Silas perk up and lick their lips in anticipation as the gang scoops up their empty basket and bounds off.

3. EXT. ELINOR'S BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

The kids run into the backyard and, seeing something O.S., Elinor skids to a stop with a <GASP>! Her friends stop next to her and look to see... the peach tree is completely bare!

19 ARI 19
Huh? Where did all the peaches go?

20 ELINOR 20
We must have picked them all off
the tree and not noticed.

21 OLIVE 21
But how are we going to deliver
peaches without peaches?

Elinor considers for a second, then has an idea.

22 ELINOR (BRIGHTLY) 22
The tree might not have any, but I
know where we can *always* get fresh
peaches... Ms. Llama's Fruit Stand.

The gang runs off, eager to fill their basket.

4. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - MS. LLAMA'S FRUITSTAND - CONTINUOUS

The kids arrive at the Fruit Stand and start scanning.

23 MS. LLAMA 23
Hiya Elinor! How-do Olive! Howdy
Ari! How can I help you today?

24 ELINOR 24
Hi Ms. Llama. We're looking for
fresh peaches.

25 MS. LLAMA 25
Oh sorry kids... I don't have any.
I'm completely peach-less.

26 ARI 26
But this is a fruit stand... there
must be some around here somewhere.

Ari gets down on all fours to look under the stand, while
Olive looks behind it. Olive pops up.

27 OLIVE (TO MZ. LLAMA) 27
Are you *sure* you don't have any
peaches? Not a single one?

Ms. Llama shakes her head and turns her pockets out.

28 MS. LLAMA 28
Sorry kids, Farmer Bear brings me
fresh fruit every morning, but she
didn't bring me *any* peaches today.

29 ARI (WORRIED) 29
Gasp! If there aren't any peaches
on Elinor's tree or at the fruit
stand, does that mean there aren't
any at Farmer Bear's farm either?

30 OLIVE 30
But there's *always* fresh fruit at
the farm... isn't there?

31 ELINOR 31
We need more observations. Let's go
have a look. Thanks Ms. Llama!

The kids bound off with their empty basket.

5. EXT. FARMER BEAR'S FARM - ENTRANCE - A LITTLE LATER

FARMER BEAR loads PRODUCE into her TRUCK as the kids arrive.

32 ELINOR 32
Farmer Bear! Farmer Bear! We have a
peachy emergency!

33 ARI 33
We've been looking everywhere, but
we can't find them anywhere.

34 OLIVE 34
May we have a look at *your* peach
trees?

35 FARMER BEAR 35
Certainly. (pointing) They're just
over there, but-

36 ELINOR 36
Thanks Farmer Bear!

The kids run off eagerly before Farmer Bear can finish. She
<CHUCKLES> to herself and resumes loading.

6. EXT. FARMER BEAR'S FARM - ORCHARD - CONTINUOUS

The gang arrives at TWO ADJACENT ORCHARDS. The first is
marked by A SIGN WITH A PEACH on it, and the PEACH TREES are
bare except for ONE PEACH on a lone branch. The second
orchard is marked by A SIGN WITH AN APPLE ON IT. The APPLE
TREES are just starting to bear SMALL, UNRIPE APPLES. The
kids run into the peach orchard and gape at the lone peach.

37 ELINOR 37
Huh? All of the trees are empty
except for this one peach.

38 OLIVE 38
Gasp! What if this is the last
one... ever?

39 ELINOR (IN CLOSE UP) 39
Oh, I hope not.

An OS <CRUNCH> reveals Ari eating the peach.

40 ARI 40
Ya, that would be terrible.

41 ELINOR / OLIVE (MOCK CHASTISING) 41
Ari!

Ari finishes the peach and offers an embarrassed smile.

42 ARI 42
It looked so yummy just hanging
there... I couldn't resist.

Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE>.

43 ELINOR 43
If there aren't any peaches
anywhere... where did they all go?

44 OLIVE 44
Maybe the peach trees don't want to
be peach trees anymore?

45 ARI 45
Or maybe the peaches all fell off
and rolled away?

46 ELINOR (CONSIDERING) 46
Hmmm... maybe...

Elinor has a thoughtful look at the peach trees, then looks
over to the apple trees, which are starting to bear fruit.

47 ELINOR (CONT'D) 47
Look! Apples are starting to grow
on the apple trees, even though the
peach trees are empty.

48 OLIVE 48
Hmmm... that's weird. The last time
I visited the farm, the *apple* trees
were empty.

49 ARI 49
Huh? Did the apple trees and peach
trees trade spots?

50 OLIVE 50
(laughs) I don't think so...

As Olive thinks back, a THOUGHT BUBBLE appears. PAN UP TO:

THOUGHT BUBBLE: In the BUBBLE, Olive, wearing a SUN HAT, and
her PARENTS bound into the peach orchard, now FULL OF FRUIT.
Olive looks up at the BEAMING SUN and wipes her brow against
the heat.

51 OLIVE (V.O.) 51
It was a *really* hot summer day. It
was *so* hot that I had to wear my
big sun hat just to cool down.

Olive plucks a peach with her trunk and takes a bite.

52 OLIVE (V.O.) 52
I remember how nice it was to have
a delicious peach right off the
tree on such a hot day.

Olive looks O.S. at the apple orchard. PULL OUT reveals the
apple trees have no apples on them (unripe or otherwise).

53 OLIVE (V.O.) 53
I also remember that the apple
trees were empty, even though the
peach trees were full of fruit.

PAN DOWN to action.

54 ELINOR 54
That's so interesting! There
weren't any apples on the trees in
the summer? But that's the best
time to be outside.

55 OLIVE 55
Hmmm... maybe apples don't like
being outside in the summer?

56 ARI (CONSIDERING) 56
I think you're right. I remember
the last time I saw apples in a
tree...

PAN UP TO **A THOUGHT BUBBLE** grows as Ari recalls...

ARI'S DAD is raking FALLEN LEAVES into a LEAF PILE. APPLES
fill the nearby APPLE TREES in their yard.

57 ARI (V.O.) 57
It was last fall. I remember
because my favorite chore is
helping my dad rake the leaves.

Ari runs in from OS and jumps, flips and lands in the leaf
pile, showering LEAVES everywhere. Ari and his dad <LAUGH>.

58 OLIVE (V.O.) 58
(laughs) You call jumping in a leaf
pile *helping*?

59 ARI (V.O.) 59
Well, *someone* has to do it. Why
else would you make a pile?

Ari climbs out of the leaf pile and shivers. His Dad pulls
out a TOQUE and places it on Ari's head. Ari picks up a SMALL
RAKE and starts to collect leaves with his dad.

60 ARI (V.O.) 60
It might be cool outside, but
raking leaves warms us up.

They stop raking, satisfied with pile. Ari's dad plucks TWO
FRESH APPLES from a nearby TREE and hands one to Ari.

61 ARI (V.O.) 61
And we *always* celebrate a job well
done with apples from our tree.

Ari and his Dad "Cheers" their apples. PAN DOWN TO:

Olive pulls out her notebook and draws a TABLE (with room for TWO MORE COLUMNS). The first has a SUN (Summer) at the top and the second has AN ORANGE LEAF (Fall) at the top. As she summarizes, Olive draws a PEACH in the summer column and an APPLE in the fall column.

62 OLIVE 62

So, I remember peaches growing in
the summer when it was *hot* and Ari
remembers apples growing in the fall
when it was *cool*.

Ari brightens with an idea!

63 ARI 63

Oh! Maybe peach trees like being
warm? If we warm up the trees,
maybe they'll grow more peaches.

Ari runs over to a peach tree and wraps it in a hug.

64 ARI (CONT'D) 64
Hugs *always* warm me up.

Elinor and Olive share a shrug.

65 ELINOR 65
It's worth a try.

Elinor and Olive join Ari and wrap the tree in a hug. Farmer Bear approaches.

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66                                FARMER BEAR                                66
                                Haha... that sure is an odd way to
                                climb a tree, kids.

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67 ARI 67
We're not trying to climb it, we're
trying to warm it.

68 FARMER BEAR (CONFUSED) 68
Warm the tree? Why?

69 ELINOR 69
The last time I saw peaches on the
trees it was hot out. We're warming
the tree so more peaches grow.

70 FARMER BEAR 70
(Chuckles) That's a great idea. But
I'm afraid it doesn't work *quite*
like that.

The kids release the tree and join Farmer Bear. Olive shows her notebook to Farmer Bear.

71 OLIVE 71
But look... we know that peaches
grow in the summer and that apples
grow in the fall.

72 FARMER BEAR 72
You're absolutely right. Different
fruits and vegetables grow at
different times of year. It's
called being "in season."

73 ELINOR 73
Oh, like peaches are "in season" in
the summer, and apple are "in
season" in the fall?

74 FARMER BEAR 74
That's it. And it's not only summer
and fall... winter and spring have
"in season" fruits and vegetables
too.

75 ARI 75
Even winter? What grows in the
winter?

76 FARMER BEAR 76
Well...

PAN UP TO: **A THOUGHT BUBBLE** GROWS above them...

With SNOW on the ground, Farmer Bear walks towards her truck with a BASKET OF CABBAGES.

77 FARMER BEAR (V.O.) 77
Cabbage is in season through the
winter. This hearty vegetable
thrives in the cold.

Farmer Bear suddenly slips on some ice! She fumbles, tossing cabbages into the air! She recovers, and deftly catches the cabbages one after the other back with her basket.

78 FARMER BEAR (V.O.) 78
Much better than *I* do, that's for
sure.

She places the basket into her truck and promptly slips again, this time falling on her rump. PAN DOWN TO:

Olive opens her book and the kids watch as she adds a THIRD COLUMN with a SNOWFLAKE (winter) at the top. She draws a CABBAGE in this column.

79 OLIVE 79
So cabbages grow in the winter...

Olive adds a fourth column with a FLOWER (Spring) at the top.

80 OLIVE (CONT'D) 80
The last season is spring... what grows then?

Everyone thinks for a beat. Elinor remembers something.

81 ELINOR 81
Oh, I know!

PAN UP TO: **A THOUGHT BUBBLE** GROWS above them...

RANGER RABBIT and ELINOR tend to a garden full of SPRING FLOWERS as BIRDS and BEES flit about.

82 ELINOR (V.O.) 82
After the snow melts in the spring, my Mom's garden is *full* of beautiful flowers.

Elinor grabs onto a RADISH STALK and PULLS!

83 ELINOR (V.O.) 83
And one of my favorite vegetables grows then too.

She can't get it on her own, so Ranger Rabbit hangs onto Elinor and they pull together until.... A BIG RADISH <POPS> out of the ground, sending the pair back onto their rumps. They share a <LAUGH>.

84 ELINOR (V.O.) 84
Radishes!

PAN DOWN TO:

85 ELINOR (REMEMBERING) (CONT'D) 85
Mmm.... I love fresh radishes in the spring.

The kids and Farmer Bear watch as Olive adds a DRAWING OF A RADISH to the Spring column in her notebook. They step through the drawings as they review.

86 OLIVE 86
So.. Peaches grow in the summer...

87 ARI 87
And apples grow in the fall...

88 FARMER BEAR 88
And cabbages grow in the winter...

89 ELINOR 89
And radishes grow in the spring!

Elinor brightens as she puts it all together.

90 ELINOR (CONT'D) 90
So *that's* why there aren't any
peaches anymore. Summer is almost
over so peaches are not "*in season*"
anymore.

Farmer Bear nods happily and leads the kids away from the
orchard, back to the entrance.

91 FARMER BEAR 91
Exactly! But don't worry... the
peach trees will be full of fruit
again next summer. And every summer
after that.

92 ARI (RELIEVED) 92
Phew! I was worried I ate the last
peach ever.

93 ELINOR 93
Hmmm... we were going to give fresh
peaches to all our friends, but if
we have to wait until next year,
what do we do now?

94 FARMER BEAR 94
Come with me, I have something to
show you.

7. EXT. FARMER BEAR'S FARM - ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Back at the entrance, Farmer Bear offers a silver lining.

95 FARMER BEAR 95
Well, luckily apples are nearly *in*
season. I harvested the first
bushel today. Think your friends
would enjoy fresh apples instead?

Farmer Bear takes a BUSHEL OF APPLES from the back of her produce truck and offers it to the kids.

96

ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE
That's perfect! / Apples? Yum! /
Thanks Farmer Bear!

96

Music starts as the kids carry off the bushel, waving thanks to Farmer Bear as they leave.

8. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - DOWNTOWN - CONTINUOUS

The gang delivers apples all over Animal Town as they sing. They find Kai and Silas and toss them both apples.

97

ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI
Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall
Each season has different fruit for
all,
If you don't eat them fresh when
they're here,
Don't you worry - they'll be back
next year.

97

They give Ms. Llama an apple which she polishes proudly.

ELINOR: Peaches are ripe and ready
to eat,
When it's summer and there's lots
of heat.

Elinor tosses an apple to SENOR TAPIR sitting on a bench. He nods thanks and strums a few chords on his GUITAR.

OLIVE: In the fall, the leaves turn
red,
And apples keep us all well fed.

They see SEKU and Ari motions to "go long." Ari lobs him an apple like a football.

ARI: In the winter, the trees are
bare,
But cabbages still grow most
anywhere.

Olive juggles an apple and tosses it to JAVIER who bounces it with his antlers before catching it.

ELINOR: When the flowers bloom in
spring,
Radishes are here to do their
thing!

Having delivered apples to all their friends, the gang bounds off with their basket.

9. EXT. ELINOR'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The kids finish the song and place their basket down.

ALL: Winter, Spring, Summer and
Fall
Each season has different fruit for
all!

The gang looks into the basket and sees THREE APPLES left.

98 ELINOR 98
Mmm... Who wants an apple?

99 ARI 99

I do... (then, sadly) But I do kind
of miss fresh peaches already.

100 ELINOR 100
Don't worry, peaches will be back
next summer and that'll be... just
peachy!

Ari brightens as the kids <LAUGH> and each take an apple.

THE END.