

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).

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It's a late summer afternoon and ELINOR, OLIVE, and ARI are playing FRISBEE in the backyard. Elinor gets ready to throw.

Elinor misfires and it flies towards Olive, but too high. *

Olive holds her arms up as the frisbee approaches. *

CU: The frisbee gets nabbed out of the air by Olive's trunk. *

REVEAL: Olive holds the disk proudly in her trunk. *

Olive tosses the frisbee towards Ari with her trunk, right on target. Ari shuffles back and forth, ready to catch it.

But as Ari is about to catch it, a COOL BREEZE blows through the yard and lifts the frisbee over Ari's head and into the nearby PEACH TREE. The kids <SHIVER> against the breeze.

6	OLIVE	6	*
	Summer's almost over. Fall will be		*
	here soon, that's why it's getting		*
	cooler. And then after that -		*
	winter!		*

Ari flies up into the tree and lands next to the frisbee and SEVERAL PEACHES (10). Elinor and Olive run to the base of the tree. Ari retrieves and tosses the frisbee down. He's about to hop down when he notices the peaches and smacks his lips.

8	ARI (CONT'D)	8	*
	Mmmmm... Who's hungry for a snack?		*

9	ELINOR	9	*
	A fresh peach? I'd love one!		*
	Ari tosses two peaches to Olive, then a third to Elinor. He flies down and Olive gives him a peach. They dig in!		*
10	ELINOR (CONT'D)	10	*
	Mmm! Peaches are so good!		*
11	OLIVE	11	*
	Yeah! Mine is super yummy too!		*
	Ari nods in agreement, mouth too full to say anything. As the kids finish their snack, Ari looks at the remaining peaches in the tree (around 10 peaches).		*
12	ARI	12	*
	That was so yummy, I wish I could eat more. But I'm way too stuffed.		*
	Elinor brightens with an idea!		*
13	ELINOR	13	*
	I know! Let's share some of these peaches with our friends.		*
14	OLIVE	14	*
	Yeah, then everyone in Animal Town will know how yummy they are.		*
15	ARI (NODDING)	15	*
	If you can't eat it, share it.		*
	Elinor and Olive reach up (Olive with her trunk) and each grab a peach. As they place them in a nearby PEACH BASKET, Ari flies into the tree to get more. CU: 2 peaches in the basket. MATCH WIPE TO REVEAL: 10 peaches in the basket. PULL OUT: Elinor places two more peaches in the basket (12 total). The gang doesn't notice the tree is BARE behind them.		*
16	OLIVE	16	*
	We're ready for a peachy delivery!		*
17	ELINOR	17	*
	Let's hop to it!		*
	Ari grabs the basket and the gang runs off.		*
	2. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - DOWNTOWN		*
	The gang arrives on the MAIN STREET and Ari places their basket down. JOE MOUSE and GEE RAFFE approach.		*

18	ELINOR	18	*
	Deputy Mouse, would you like a fresh peach?		*
19	JOE MOUSE (UNSURE)	19	*
	Hmm, you're giving away peaches? For free? What's wrong with them?		*
20	ELINOR	20	*
	(giggles) Nothing's wrong with them. They're fresh from the tree in my yard.		*
21	OLIVE	21	*
	Yeah, we ate some and they were so yummy we wanted to share them.		*
	Joe Mouse peeks into the basket.		*
22	JOE MOUSE (WARMING UP)	22	*
	Well, they certainly do look yummy.		*
23	ARI	23	*
	Wait until you taste one.		*
	Ari tosses Joe a peach. Joe looks at it curiously for a half beat then takes a bite. His eyes light up! Olive tosses a peach up to Gee Raffe who takes a bite and smiles brightly!		*
24	JOE MOUSE (BRIGHTLY)	24	*
	You're right, kids... this is one delicious peach, thank you. Please proceed with your peachy keen deeds.		*
	Gee Raffe and Joe continue on, clearly enjoying the snack.		*
25	ELINOR	25	*
	(giggle) I can't wait until everyone gets to try a peach!		*
	Ari sees MZ. MOLE and MR. RACCOON walking towards them.		*
26	ARI	26	*
	Then let's get peaching!		*
	PLAYFUL INSTRUMENTAL MONTAGE MUSIC starts as...		*
	3. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - MONTAGE		*
	DOWNTOWN (same location as above): The gang hands out more peaches to TOWNSFOLK as they pass: MZ. MOLE, MR. RACCOON, MR. PIG, MR. MOOSE. Everyone looks extremely happy and grateful		*

for the snacks. The gang share a high five and run off with the basket. WIPE.

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 the front door and Elinor gives her a peach. After a beat MIRO appears above Lizzie and TITO appears below her. The gang give them peaches as well. The kids look delighted and wave their thanks as the gang runs off. **WIPE.**

SALLY'S HOUSE - MRS. BEAVER is building a BIRDHOUSE with SALLY. The kids sneak in and place two peaches in her TOOLBOX. MRS. BEAVER reaches for a tool and grabs the peaches instead. Briefly confused, she spots the gang and smiles as she hands a peach to Sally. Sally takes a bite and offers her friends a big smile as they run off. **WIPE. END MONTAGE.**

4. EXT. SOCCER FIELD - CONTINUOUS

The gang arrives at the soccer field where KOA, SILAS, ASHLEY, and BODIE are kicking a BALL around.

27 ARI (CALLING) 27
Who wants a peach?!

The kids put a stop to their game and run over.

28 KOA 28
Peaches? Yum! I sure need a snack
after all that running.

Silas, Ashley, and Bodie nod in agreement.

29 ELINOR 29
Then get ready to enjoy a fresh...

Elinor reaches into the basket, but... CU REVEAL: it's empty!
Elinor, Olive and Ari share a <GASP>!

30 OLIVE 30
Oh no! The basket's empty.

31	ARI	31
	Peach pits! We ran out of peaches before we ran out of friends. (to their friends) Sorry everyone.	

The friends slump.

32	KOA	32	*
	Aw, I was really looking forward to a fruity treat.		*
33	ELINOR (BRIGHTLY)	33	*
	Don't worry, we can <i>always</i> get more peaches from my peach tree. We'll be right back... c'mon gang!		*
	Koa and friends perk up as the gang bounds off.		*
	5. EXT. ELINOR'S BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS		*
	The kids run into the backyard and, seeing something O.S. (the EMPTY PEACH TREE), Elinor skids to a stop with a <GASP>! Her friends stop next to her and look to see... the peach tree is completely bare! The basket drops from Ari's hand.		*
34	ARI	34	
	Huh? Where did all the peaches go?		
35	ELINOR	35	*
	Oh... we must have picked them all and not noticed.		*
36	OLIVE	36	*
	How are we going to deliver peaches if there aren't any peaches left on the peach tree?		*
37	ARI	37	*
	Yeah, I thought fruit trees <i>always</i> have fruit... that's why they're called <i>fruit</i> trees!		*
38	OLIVE	38	*
	Hmmm... I bet more peaches will start growing soon. (she sits under the tree) Maybe we should just wait for more.		*
39	ELINOR	39	*
	But who knows how long that will take? It could be <i>hours</i> ! Koa and the rest of our friends are waiting for peaches <i>right now</i> .		*
40	ARI	40	*
	We must be able to get fresh peaches somewhere... but where?		*
	The gang considers, Elinor has an idea.		*

41	ELINOR (BRIGHTLY)	41	*
	I know where we can <i>always</i> get		*
	fresh peaches - Farmer Bear's farm!		*
	Ari palms his forehead in realization.		*
42	ARI	42	*
	Of course! Farmer Bear has <i>loads</i> of		*
	peaches.		*
43	OLIVE	43	*
	She'll have so many peaches, I bet		*
	we'll have enough to bring them to		*
	<i>everyone in town.</i>		*
	Ari scoops up the basket, eager to go.		*
44	ARI	44	*
	Then what are we waiting for?		*
	Peaches here we come!		*
	Ari runs off with Olive and Elinor hot on his heels.		*
	6. EXT. FARMER BEAR'S FARM - ENTRANCE - A LITTLE LATER		*
	FARMER BEAR loads PRODUCE into her TRUCK as the kids arrive.		
45	ELINOR	45	
	Farmer Bear! Farmer Bear! We have a		
	peachy emergency!		
46	ARI	46	
	We were delivering peaches to our		*
	friends when we ran out.		*
47	OLIVE	47	*
	Yeah, so we went back to Elinor's		*
	peach tree to get more, but there		*
	wasn't a single one left on it!		*
48	ELINOR	48	*
	But we remembered that there are		*
	<i>always</i> fresh peaches at your farm.		*
	So, may we see your peach trees?		*
49	FARMER BEAR	49	*
	Certainly. (pointing) They're just		
	over there, but-		
50	ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE	50	*
	Thanks Farmer Bear!		

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

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

The gang arrives at a PEACH ORCHARD. The PEACH TREES are bare except for ONE PEACH on a lone branch. In disbelief, the kids walk towards the peach. Ari puts down the basket.

51	ELINOR	51	*
	Huh? Even at the farm, all of the peach trees are peach-less! Except for this one.		*
52	OLIVE	52	*
	Oh no! Is this the last peach ever?		*
	Ari hops into a defensive stance: arms out, back to the peach. His eyes dart right and left protectively.		*
53	ARI	53	*
	If it is, we can't let anything happen to it!		*
	Ari looks behind the tree suspiciously, then dive rolls back to the peach and hops up in a kung-fu stance.		*
54	ARI (TO PEACH) (CONT'D)	54	*
	Don't worry, I'll protect the peach... Hiya!		*
	Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE>.		
55	ELINOR	55	*
	It's okay, Ari, I'm sure that's not the last peach ever.		*
	Ari <PHEWS> and relaxes.		*
56	ELINOR (CONT'D)	56	*
	But we need to figure out why more peaches aren't growing.		*
	Suddenly, a COOL BREEZE blows through again, strong enough to shake the peach free from the tree. Ari springs into action! He dives and catches the peach before it hits the ground. He hops up and holds the peach proudly.		*
57	ARI	57	*
	Told you I'm a peachy protector.		*
	Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE> when a second breeze makes them all <SHIVER> against the cool air.		*

58	ELINOR	58	*
	Brr! These breezes are really chilly.		*
			*
59	OLIVE	59	*
	Yeah, it's too bad that the warm summer days are almost over.		*
			*
60	ELINOR	60	*
	(sigh) I miss the warm weather already. I remember just the other day...		*
			*
	As Elinor recalls, PAN UP to a THOUGHT BUBBLE.		*
	THOUGHT BUBBLE: Elinor is playing with a HULA HOOP in her backyard while her PARENTS work in the GARDEN. The peach tree is FULL of peaches.		*
			*
			*
61	ELINOR (CONT'D)	61	*
	...it was so hot that I could barely even hula hoop!		*
			*
	Elinor, clearly hot, drops the hula hoop and wipes her brow. RANGER RABBIT notices and walks to a SMALL TABLE holding a plate with TWO PEACHES and SEVERAL PEACH SLICES. She picks up a slice and brings it to Elinor.		*
			*
			*
			*
62	ELINOR (CONT'D)	62	*
	But that's when my mom gave me a peach from the tree, which was <i>full</i> of peaches.		*
			*
	Elinor eats the peach slice and feels rejuvenated! She picks up her hula hoop and resumes playing.		*
			*
	PAN DOWN to the gang.		*
			*
63	ELINOR (CONT'D)	63	*
	It was a great way to cool down so I could keep hula-ing and hooping!		*
			*
64	OLIVE (CONSIDERING)	64	*
	Hmmm... Did you say your tree was <i>full</i> of peaches?		*
			*
	Elinor nods and realizes.		*
			*
65	ELINOR	65	*
	You're right, I <i>did</i> say that.		*
	Hmmm... I wonder why the tree had peaches <i>then</i> but not <i>now</i> ? (then, brightly) We need more observations!		*
			*

66	ARI	66	*
	But what can we observe? There		*
	aren't any peaches left.		*
	He holds up his peach protectively.		*
67	ARI (CONT'D)	67	*
	Except this one.		*
68	ELINOR	68	*
	That's true, but if you two		*
	<i>remember</i> the last time you ate		*
	peaches, I think that can help us.		*
69	OLIVE	69	*
	Good idea. Let's see, the last time		*
	I remember eating a peach was...		*
	As Olive recalls, PAN UP to a THOUGHT BUBBLE.		*
	In THOUGHT BUBBLE, Olive sits in her front yard, looking up		*
	at the STARRY NIGHT SKY.		*
70	OLIVE (CONT'D)	70	*
	...a few nights ago. It was warm		*
	out, so I was looking up at the		*
	evening stars without being cold.		*
	OLIVE'S MOM exits the door with TWO PIECES OF PEACH PIE. She		*
	sits next to Olive and gives her a slice.		*
71	OLIVE (CONT'D)	71	*
	My mom made a pie with fresh		*
	peaches she got that day, and when		*
	we were just about to dig in ...		*
	Above them, a SHOOTING STAR zips through the sky. Olive and		*
	her mom see it together and <GASP> and point! Olive's mom		*
	puts her arm around Olive and pulls her close.		*
72	OLIVE (CONT'D)	72	*
	We saw a shooting star!		*
	Olive and her mom share a smile and each have a bite of pie.		*
	PAN DOWN to the gang. Olive is beaming.		*
73	OLIVE (CONT'D)	73	*
	I'll never forget <i>that</i> peach pie.		*
74	ARI	74	*
	That sounds amazing, Olive! (then,		*
	thinking) Hmm, the last time I had		*
	a fresh peach was...		*

As Ari recalls, PAN UP to a THOUGHT BUBBLE.

In THOUGHT BUBBLE, Ari (wearing a SWIMSUIT), runs out of the SHALLOW LAKE to join his PARENTS for a PICNIC on a TOWEL.

75	ARI (CONT'D)	75	*
	...last weekend when I was at the		*
	lake with my Mom and Dad. It was so		*
	hot, I spent the whole morning		*
	swimming.		*

ARI'S MOM hands him a peach slice from a PICNIC BASKET. *

76	ARI (CONT'D)	76	*
	My hands were so slippery from the		*
	water, that I dropped my lunch!		*

Ari can't keep hold of the peach slice. He juggles it a few *
times before it drops into the sand. He looks at it sadly. *
Ari's mom hands him another slice from the basket. *

77 ARI (CONT'D) 77 *
Good thing my mom brought lots of *
fresh peach slices. *

Ari brightens and happily chomps the new peach slice. *

PAN DOWN to the gang. *

78	ARI (MATTER OF FACTLY) (CONT'D)	78	*
	I spent the whole afternoon		*
	swimming, too.		*

Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE>. Elinor considers and realizes... *

79	ELINOR	79	*
	That's soo interesting! We all		*
	remember eating fresh peaches <i>in</i>		*
	<i>the summer</i> . Does anyone remember		*
	eating fresh peaches any other time		*
	of year? In the winter maybe?		*

80	ARI (THINKING)	80	*
	Um... fresh peaches in the winter?		*
	I don't think so.		*

81	OLIVE (THINKING)	81	*
	Yeah, I've never had a fresh peach		*
	in the fall or the spring, either.		*

82	ELINOR	82	*
	Then that's it! Peaches must <i>only</i>		*
	<i>grow in the summer.</i>		*

83	OLIVE (REALIZING)	83	*
	And they're not growing anymore		*
	because summer's almost over!		*
Ari brightens with an idea!			
84	ARI	84	
	Oh! Maybe peaches only grow in the		*
	summer because it's warm. So, if we		*
	warm up the trees, they'll grow		*
	more peaches!		*
Ari runs over to a peach tree and wraps it in a hug.			
85	ARI (CONT'D)	85	
	Hugs <i>always</i> warm me up.		
Elinor and Olive share a shrug.			
86	ELINOR	86	
	It's worth a try.		
Elinor and Olive join Ari and wrap the tree in a hug. Farmer Bear approaches with a BASKET she places on the ground.			
87	FARMER BEAR	87	
	Ahhh, you love the tree so much		*
	you're hugging it - that's soo		*
	nice.		*
88	ARI	88	
	We do love the tree, Farmer Bear,		*
	but we're not just hugging it,		*
	we're trying to warm it.		
89	FARMER BEAR (CONFUSED)	89	
	<i>Warm</i> the tree? Why?		
90	ELINOR	90	
	Peaches only grow in the summer		*
	when it's warm.		*
91	FARMER BEAR	91	
	(Chuckles) That's a great idea. I'm		*
	afraid it doesn't work <i>quite</i> like		
	that, though.		*
Elinor and Olive release the tree, Ari keeps hugging it.			
92	FARMER BEAR (CONT'D)	92	
	But you're absolutely right that		*
	peaches only grow in the summer.		*
	It's called being "in season."		*

93	ELINOR	93	
	Oh, like peaches are "in season" in the summer?		*
94	FARMER BEAR	94	
	Exactly! Lots of fruits and vegetables, like strawberries, corn, and melons, are in season only during the summer too.		*
			*
			*
	Pan up to THOUGHT BUBBLE. SIMPLE ANIMATION shows an ILLUSTRATED ELINOR in an ILLUSTRATED SUMMER GARDEN surrounded by PEACH TREES.		*
95	FARMER BEAR (CONT'D)	95	
	All seasons have "in season" fruits and vegetables. For example...		*
			*
	As Farmer Bear speaks, the ILLUSTRATED ELINOR walks through the garden, which transitions through the seasons (SUMMER, FALL, WINTER, SPRING) which feature the produce FB mentions.		*
96	FARMER BEAR (CONT'D)	96	
	Peaches in the summer... apples in the fall... cabbage in the winter... and radishes in the spring!		*
			*
	Now in SPRING, the illustrated Elinor plucks a RADISH from the ground and smiles. PAN DOWN to the gang.		*
97	ELINOR	97	
	I love fresh radishes in the spring!		*
98	FARMER BEAR	98	
	Me too! If you eat fresh fruits and vegetables when they're in season, there's always something delicious to eat.		*
			*
99	ARI	99	
	So, even if I hug the tree... it won't grow more peaches right now?		*
100	FARMER BEAR (SHAKING HER HEAD)	100	
	Sorry, Ari. Once summer is over, peaches aren't in season anymore.		*
			*
	Ari releases the tree and looks at it sadly. Farmer Bear cheers him up!		*
101	FARMER BEAR (BRIGHTLY) (CONT'D)	101	
	But don't worry, the trees will be full of peaches again next summer. And every summer after that.		*

Ari brightens! He holds up the peach.

102 ARI (RELIEVED)
 (Gasp!) That means this *isn't* the
 last peach ever!

FB nods. Elinor looks at the peach and realizes.

103 ELINOR
Oh no... we were going to give
fresh peaches to Koa and all our
friends, but if we have to wait
until next year, what do we do now?

104 FARMER BEAR
Well, you're in luck! It's almost
fall, so apples are nearly *in*
season. And some ripened early!

Farmer Bear shows them her BASKET, which is full of APPLES.

105 FARMER BEAR (CONT'D)
Think your friends would enjoy
fresh apples instead?

She unloads apples from her basket into the kids' basket.

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

Elinor scoops up the full basket and the kids run off.

8. EXT. SOCCER FIELD - A LITTLE LATER

Koa and friends all stop playing and run to the gang as they arrive.

107 ELINOR
Who wants a snack?

They toss apples to Koa, Silas, Ashley, and Bodie. Koa beams.

108 KOA
Apples? Awesome! I like peaches,
but I love apples. Thanks!

The kids take a happy <CRUNCH> from their apples. Elinor and her friends beam with happiness.

109 ELINOR (TO ARI AND OLIVE)
We've still got lots of fresh
apples to deliver, let's go!

MUSIC STARTS as the gang runs off, waving to their friends. *

9. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - VARIOUS - CONTINUOUS *

The gang delivers apples all over Animal Town as they sing. *

110 ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI 110

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

They give apples to MS. LLAMA, MR. CAT and MR. ELEPHANT. *

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 and MR. HAMSTER sitting
on a bench. Senor Tapir 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 SHEILA and Ari motions to "go long." Ari
and Olive lob them apples like a football. *

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

Elinor tosses apples to PHILBERT and JAVIER who bounces it
with his antlers before catching it. *

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

The gang bounds off with their basket. *

10. EXT. ELINOR'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS *

The kids finish the song and place their basket down.

ALL: Winter, Spring, Summer and
(MORE)

ELINOR / OLIVE / ARI (CONT'D)

Fall. Each season has fresh fruit
for all!

*

The gang looks into the basket and sees it's empty!

*

111

ELINOR

111

Oh no, we didn't leave any apples
for us.

*

*

112

ARI (O.S.)

112

That's okay...

*

*

REVEAL Ari is holding the peach from earlier.

*

113

ARI (CONT'D)

113

There's still one last peach for us
to share, remember?

*

*

*

114

ELINOR

114

Ari that is... just peachy!

*

The kids share a <LAUGH>.

*

THE END.

*