

Dave

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 104B Special Places

By: Rachel Lipman

Elinor's Question: Why do birds lay eggs in nests and dogs bury bones in the ground?

Logline: When Ari misplaces his favorite ball, the group discovers that he needs a special place to keep his things.

Curriculum Goals:

LS5.Begin to understand that animals and plants depend on other living things and nonliving things in the environment to meet some of their needs. (The bird and dog both depend on their environment to provide a place to store important things and keep them safe).

ND. None in this one.

SEP3: Planning and carrying out investigations:

e: Design and build a solution to a simple problem (they make a special place to keep the ball after observing a nest a place for the rake and a hole for chew toys.)

Line Count 113

Main Characters: Elinor, Olive, Ari, Mr. Dog

Incidental Characters: Ms. Bat

Backgrounds: Ari's house, Ari's room, Ari's backyard, Mr. Dog's house

Props: Ball, apples, rake, bird and eggs, chew toy.

OUTLINE: 28-Dec-2018

FIRST DRAFT: 15-Jan-2019

SECOND DRAFT: 05-Jan-2019

POLISH: 19-Feb-2019

RECORD DRAFT: 22-Feb-2019

start on white
water on effect to
open

1. EXT. BATS' CAVE (ARI'S HOUSE) - DAY

It's a sunny day in early Fall. OPEN ON ELINOR and OLIVE walking in the forest. Elinor is looking around and stops to examine a hole in a tree trunk.

*can enter
walking
sc. right to
left

1
up on her toes



ELINOR
Hello! Anybody in here?

OLIVE
Let's go, Elinor, we're almost at
Ari's house.

Elinor catches up to Olive.

OLIVE (CONT'D)
I can't wait! Ari say he has a
brand new ball he wants us to play
with.

ELINOR
We're here!

They arrive at the BAT FAMILY'S CAVE and walk toward the
door. Elinor rings the bell. - or knocks on the door

Ari comes bounding out to see Elinor and Olive.

ARI
Elinor! Olive! Thanks for coming
over.
(calls into house)
Bye, Mom and Dad! I'm going out to
show my friends my brand new SUPER
bouncy ball!

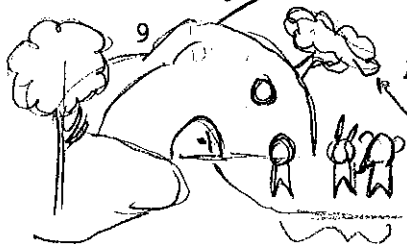
Ms. Bat peeks around the corner within the house smiling, and
waves to them, then, pulling the door shut behind him, Ari
reaches into his pocket and pulls out something round and red
which is mostly concealed in his hand.

ARI (CONT'D)
Ta-dah!

OLIVE/ELINOR
(admiringly)
Oooooohh....

ARI
How high do you think it'll bounce?

OLIVE
As high as my trunk can reach?



they
play
here

tree
Elinor
points to
line 10.



stretch
up on one foot

- pan through
forest
as they
walk.

- add a
few plants
in foreground
for
layers

- can turn
to take
a few steps
backwards
looking at
Elinor
her

* enter location from
sc. right

from where ever
works -
perhaps from family room
or hallway.

- hand around
it so we
don't see it's
an apple

Olive stretches her trunk as far as she can, way over everyone's head.

10 ELINOR
As high as that tree?

Elinor points toward a tall tree.

11 ARI
Let's find out. Ready? Hee-ya!

Ari lifts his arm, winds up and BEANS the "ball" down to the ground. It lands with a THUD and lies there, flat.

12 OLIVE
I thought it would go higher.

Ari frowns and bends forward to examine the object. He picks it up.

13 ARI
Wait, that's not my bouncy ball. It's an apple!

14 OLIVE
No wonder it didn't bounce.

15 ELINOR
That was more like a "splat!"

16 ARI
How'd that get into my pocket? And where did I put the ball?

Olive and Elinor shrug. Ari thinks, trying to remember...

17 ARI (CONT'D)
It must be somewhere in my room. I'll go check. Be right back!

Elinor and Olive follow Ari toward the house.

18 OLIVE
Uh, we'd better come help you look.

19 ELINOR
Yeah, it's not always easy to find stuff in your room.

20 ARI
What do you mean?



* to transition to next seq.
- keep framing & Ari position same
- bxdissolve - to reveal BG of bedroom
dinner

see my drawing previous page - tree on top of cave - ext. ari. house. 001

↓ into the ground

maybe even jumps up in the air - comes down throwing it hard towards the ground

→ could look side to side

> takes apple with him

**Ari is able to walk*
on ceiling.*

2. INT. BATS' CAVE - ARI'S ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

CLOSE ON ARI, standing on what appears to be a neat and empty floor next to his bed.

21

ARI

21

My room is really neat!

ROTATE CAMERA AND PULL OUT to reveal Ari is "standing" on his ceiling (his bed is bolted to the ceiling.)

22

ELINOR

22

I guess so, if you count up there on the ceiling as your floor.

On Olive and Elinor - standing in knee-deep debris on the real floor (clothes, comic books, bath towels, toys.)

ARI

Well, bats do sleep upside down.

Ari glides down to land near his friends.

24

OLIVE

24

It's pretty messy. How can we find the ball in here?

25

ELINOR

25

How can we find anything in here?

Ari helps Elinor and Olive sift through his belongings, picking up a jacket, a hat, and a book and finding nothing underneath.

26

ARI

26

Well, the good news is, the ball's not here!

27

OLIVE

27

Why is that GOOD news?

28

ARI

28

If we know where the ball ISN'T, then we know where the ball IS!

29

ELINOR

29

Really? Where? *hopeful!*

30

ARI

30

SOMEWHERE ELSE! So now we know!

Olive and Elinor stare at Ari in disbelief.

transition

framing idea on previous page -

looking up at Ari who hangs from ceiling

rotate the out wide - show full ceiling



as they look back and forth at mess around them. - picking items underneath

take a moment to have them looking

31

OLIVE

But "somewhere else" could be anywhere else in the world! It could take years to find it!

Knows both arm up in circular motion



32

ARI

(undaunted)

Well, I haven't been everywhere in the world... so it's got to be around here somewhere!

Feet grab on to rail.

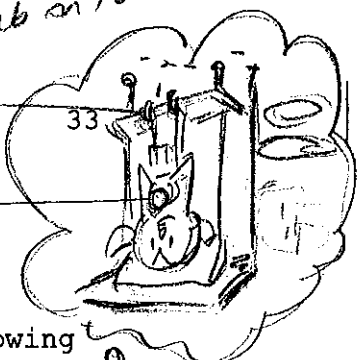
32

33

ELINOR

I have an idea! Let's go back to all the places you've been today, and see if we can find the ball. Think back, Ari: When was the last time you had it?

holding ball



Ari reflects. A THOUGHT BUBBLE appears next to him, showing him in bed holding the ball.

34

ARI

Hmm, I had it this morning when I got up...

34



The THOUGHT BUBBLE re-draws to show Ari walking out his door with the ball.

35

ARI (CONT'D)

Then I got dressed. And then I went outside to play with my ball!

35

36

ELINOR

Ok! Let's go outside!

cut to Elinor

36

Elinor leads them out of the room.

cut to all (thought bubble gone)

water on effect - image off & then him going outside with ball water on effect on.

4. EXT. BATS' CAVE (ARI'S HOUSE) - YARD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Ari leads the way through the yard with Elinor and Olive walking behind, looking around for the ball.

37

ELINOR

So you came out to the yard. What did you do out here?

head to sc. left side of yard.

37

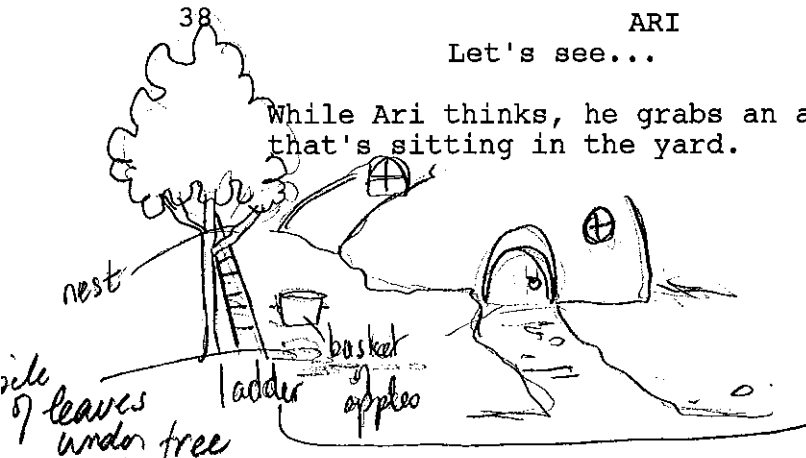
38

ARI

Let's see...

38

While Ari thinks, he grabs an apple from a BASKET OF APPLES that's sitting in the yard.



** place ladder wherever you need to have Elinor on it & looking into nest*

39 ARI (CONT'D) 39
Mm, these apples are so good. Want one?

40 ELINOR 40
Not right now, thanks.

41 OLIVE 41
Maybe later.

Ari shrugs, bites into the apple, then puts it back in the basket and keeps thinking.

ARI 42
Wait - I remember now!

THOUGHT BUBBLE forms next to Ari, as his DAD now stands near him, pointing at leaves laying around the yard.

ARI (CONT'D) 43
My dad asked me to rake the leaves!

ANGLE ON: A messy pile of leaves under a nearby apple tree.

ELINOR 44
(hopeful)
Hmm, do you think the ball is in that leaf pile?

OLIVE 45
There's only one way to find out...
(to Ari)
Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

ARI 46
I think so! *big smile*

Olive, Ari and Elinor look at each other for a beat, then dive right into the pile of leaves, swimming around with their arms.

ARI/OLIVE/ELINOR 47
WOO HOO!/Whee!/Leaf-o-rama!!

After a few beats of leaf play, the kids stop as the leaves settle around them.

ELINOR 48
Well, That was fun.

OLIVE 49
But we didn't find the ball.



could show Ari with hand in basket just like he was doing now 33 + Mr. bat points to pile of leaves 44

towards the apple tree

cut to Elinor to Olive & try out to include Ari - thought bubble gone

maybe "snow angel"

tossing leaves up

create a nice composition the three in the leaves.

50

OLIVE (CONT'D)

50

Hmm.. Where else can we look?

As Ari and Olive are talking, we ANGLE ON: Elinor as she hears something and looks up to find the source overhead
<SFX: BIRDS CHIRPING>

51

ARI

51

I don't know. I go to a lot of places.

ANGLE ON TREE: TRACK UP the trunk to discover a BIRD ON A BRANCH above Elinor's head. Luckily, it's the apple tree where someone left a ladder leaning for apple-picking.

52

OLIVE

52

(almost inaudible)

Can't you remember where you left it?

53

ARI

53

(almost inaudible)

I'm trying, but the leaves are so distracting..

54

OLIVE

54

(almost inaudible)

Good point! LEAF JUMP!!

As Ari and Olive jump back in the leave in the background Elinor climbs the ladder against the tree to observe the bird up close.

SCIENCE MOMENT CU: The bird hops busily back and forth on the branch, adding twigs and fluff to its nest. Elinor gets even closer, going up on her tiptoes to discover THREE SMALL EGGS in the nest. ON ELINOR - she reacts, interested. Elinor watches for a beat as the bird returns to the nest.

55

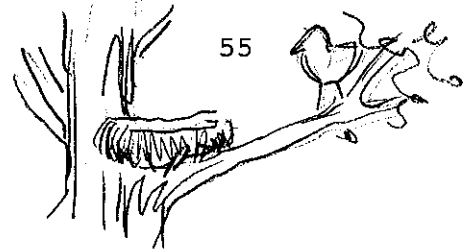
ELINOR

55

(quietly to herself)

Oooohh. It's a bird's nest. You're making a special place to keep your eggs nice and safe, aren't you Mama Bird?

BACK TO SCENE: Olive and Ari lie back into the leaves, smiling as the leaves flutter and settle around them. All of a sudden, Ari sits up straight



maybe we
hear Ari/Olive
laugh O.S.

Elinor looks
down at
them

could have
downshot

Ari & Olive
paying in leaves
on ground
flat so it not

Elinor
is only high
enough
to see
bird adding to
side of nest. then
Elinor can maybe
get on
her toes
or stretches
to be able
to see inside
nest.

Elinor
can be
getting
up &
starting to
climb ladder
throughout
this conversation

all o.s.
as we
follow
Elinor's
actions

56

ARI

Wait, I remember something else.
Before I could rake the leaves, I
had to go find the rake behind the
house.

maybe this
line is dumb
then we cut
down to ground
as Ari sits up
- Olive sits up as well

This catches Elinor's attention.

57

ELINOR

Then, maybe that's where you left
the ball?

58

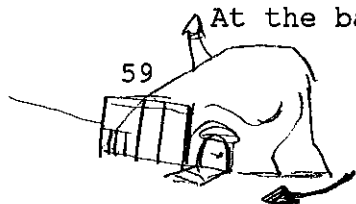
ARI

Come on - let's look!

stands up & starts
to head towards
back of house
- only a few steps

5. EXT. BATS' CAVE (ARI'S HOUSE) - BACK OF HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

At the back of the house, the kids look around for the ball.



59

ARI

Ooh - I remember this is exactly
where I was standing when I did my
super-amazing "toss and spin" move.
Watch!

* Kids come from here

He spins around, pretends to catch the "invisible" ball, but
in a convoluted stretch, reaches out so far to catch it that
he almost loses his balance, has to hop on one foot, then--

Ari enters
first - then Olive
then Elinor
- so have Ari
first looking
side to side
allowing time
for the others to
enter

60

ARI (CONT'D)

Ta-da!

61

OLIVE

Um, nice catch?

62

ARI

Thanks - it's even more impressive
with an actual ball.

Elinor and Olive <GIGGLE>.

Olive shakes her head
as she laughs

63

ARI (CONT'D)

I didn't catch the actual ball,
though. I dropped it around here.

64

ELINOR

(to Ari)

Maybe it rolled over this way.

Olive and Ari continue to look for the ball.

Ari points out the rake on the ground nearby.

looking down
at ground in
search
they walk
slowly -
looking for it
on the
ground

pretends to throw
ball straight up
- spins 360
and stretches
to catch it
off balance

65

ARI

Hey, here's the rake! But...
there's no ball.

Ari keeps looking around while Olive picks up the rake.

66

OLIVE

This one?

The rake part falls off of the handle.

67

ELINOR

That rake is broken.

68

ARI

(remembering)

Oh, right... NOW I remember. Our
rake is broken so I had to borrow
another rake from our neighbor Mr.
Dog.

He spots Mr. Dog's rake leaning against a tree a few trees
away and points it out.

69

ARI (CONT'D)

There it is!

70

ELINOR

Okay, let's see... You went
outside, then your dad asked you to
rake the leaves, but the rake was
broken, so then you went to borrow
a rake from Mr. Dog?

71

ARI

Yep, but don't forget, I did the
spin and catch move, too.

He acts out the spin and catch move again.

72

OLIVE

Maybe we should look for the ball
at Mr. Dog's house!

They all start to head over, then Elinor goes back and grabs
the rake, handing it to Ari.

73

ELINOR

And, we can return Mr. Dog's rake.

74

ARI

I bet he would like that!

- they continue getting closer to trees where they eventually find Mr. Dog's rake

- the rake part can be slanted as she picks it up - then it falls off



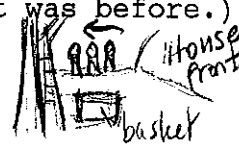
- looks around.

Olive puts broken rake down



head screen right if looking at back of house

The kids exit toward Mr. Dog's house, passing the apple tree with the basket of apples nearby (wherever it was before.)



This may not be possible unless we have an angle of the apple basket/tree in foreground as we see kids in backyard walking towards sc. left (since camera is at front of house)

6. EXT. MR. DOG'S YARD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

As the kids enter, MR. DOG is putting a squeaky chew toy into a hole, and starts shoveling dirt over it with a shovel.

MR. DOG

Hi, kids, what's up?

ARI

I brought back your rake, Mr. Dog. Thanks for letting me borrow it.

MR. DOG

You're welcome, Ari. It's always nice to have everything back in its proper place.

He hangs up his rake on its special hook on the side of the nearby shed. — on empty hook in bg design

MR. DOG (CONT'D)

There we go.

Mr. Dog goes back to his digging.

heads back to hole — as he walks, Ari asks

ARI

Uhh, Mr. Dog. Did I leave my new super-bouncy ball here?

MR. DOG

Sorry, Ari I haven't seen your ball.

CLOSE ON ELINOR Elinor watches intently as Mr. Dog keeps shoveling dirt. Then he plops the chew toy in the hole (causing it to SQUEAK once) and covers it.

ELINOR

Uhh, Mr. Dog? Why do you bury your chew-toys? Aren't they for chewing?

MR. DOG

Good question, Elinor. We DOGS love to put things away, and that's why we bury them. We keep them safe in their special place. That way we know exactly where to find them when we need them!



82

81

80

79

78

77

76

75

This will be a second hole — picks up another chew toy from ground and puts it in.

can maybe lean on shovel then science moment as he puts dirt & starts to dig another hole (see next page)

Ext. Mr. Dog's house as kids enter 76 from sc. right

suggest Mr. Dog 77 is facing sc. right

shed kids enter

hole

SCIENCE CU MOMENT: As he talks, Mr. Dog covers the hole, then he starts digging again. Elinor looks closely at the hole.

83

ELINOR
Another special place. Hmrrrrrrrr.
That's SO INTERESTING!

83

84

OLIVE
What is it, Elinor?

84

85

ELINOR
I'm figuring something out.
(beat, thinking)
I wonder...

85

Elinor starts to sing: Over song we see:

THOUGHT BUBBLE next to Elinor. The bubble expands and we go into song world. We see the bird gathering sticks on the ground, then flying up and adding to her nest, where three eggs sit snugly. Then, we see Mr. Dog finishing burying his chew toy. He walks off and day turns into night and back into day, and we see Mr. Dog dig out his toy, happy to have it again.

thought
bubble grows
- lets trk
camera to
fill frame
86



water on
effect - and
Mr. dog
on.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

(singing)

To keep something safe
Keep it in a special place
Put things away
Save it for another day

I saw birds build a nest
To hold all their eggs

And Mr. Dog found a spot
For a toy he likes a lot

To keep something safe
Keep it in a special place
Put things away
Save it for another day.

Mr. dog starts to
walk towards
house - stay on
same Payout
as we transition
to night B6 - add
then again to day
as Mr. dog is digging
up toy - picks it
up - smiling
(don't show him
chewing it)

We don't
see kids
on these
scenerias

THOUGHT BUBBLE BURSTS ON ELINOR - coming out of song.

87

ELINOR (CONT'D)
If you put things in a special
place, you won't lose them.

87

88

MR. DOG
That's right, Elinor. It's
important to put things away so you
can find them again.

88

maybe trk-out
and trk-down
to Elinor
as bubble
water on
effect
off.

He steps on the dirt where he's buried the chew toy, and we hear a faint <SQUEAK>! The kids <GIGGLE>.

89 ARI 89
Yeah, I should have put my ball in
a special place.

At that moment Ari's stomach <SFX: GROWLS>

90 ARI (CONT'D) 90
 Hmm, speaking of special places, my
 stomach is a special place, and
 right now it's empty! I could use
 another delicious apple.

(he starts to put it together)

Wait a minute -- ball, apple,
special place... I remember where I
left the ball!

Ari runs OS with Elinor and Olive at his heels.

91 ELINOR
(over her shoulder)
Bye, Mr. Dog!

Mr. Dog waves goodbye and takes a step back, and we hear another <SQUEAK>.

7. EXT. ARI'S YARD - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

The kids run OS and Ari runs right up to the basket of apples, digs around a little and...

92 ARI 92
TA-DAH!!!!!!

He holds up the ball triumphantly.

93 OLIVE 93

The ball!

94 ELINOR 94
How did it get there?

95 ARI 95

I must have put it down in the
apple basket when I reached for an
apple this morning.

Ari throws the ball and it bounces really high!

↓ to the ground and it bounces up
really high

96

ELINOR

Wow!

Elinor and Olive giggle. Elinor picks up the ball.

maybe Elinor catches the ball on its way down - otherwise it'll keep bouncing and they'll need to chase it.

97

OLIVE

Okay, my turn!

97

98

ARI

Wait! First I have a favor to ask.

98

99

ELINOR

What is it Ari?

99

100

ARI

I know it's important to put things away in a special place. Will you help me with something?

100

Olive and Elinor share a smile.

101

ELINOR

Of course, Ari!

101

102

OLIVE

(laughing)

We thought you'd never ask!

102

8. INT. BATS' CAVE - ARI'S ROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari sort and clean his room as they reprise the song Elinor sang earlier:

103

ELINOR/OLIVE/ARI

To keep something safe
Keep it in a special place
Put things away
Save it for another day

I saw birds build a nest
To hold all their eggs

And Mr. Dog found a spot
For a toy he likes a lot

To keep something safe
Keep it in a special place
Put things away
Save it for another day.

Montage.

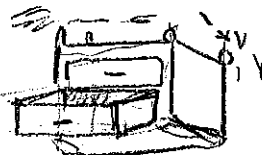
- can jump around within room.

103

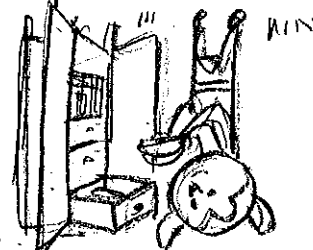
have toy chest on floor - putting toys inside

- We want to show how his furniture works being upside down

- maybe Olive tosses something up to Ari with her trunk. he's either flying - catches it & puts it away - or he catches it as he hangs upside down.



Let's try to show examples



furniture upside down but draws face up so things don't fall out.

9. INT. ARI'S ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

CU Ari's face, thrilled. PULL BACK to reveal he's once again perched on his ceiling near his bed.

104 ARI 104
Wow. My room has never looked THIS good before.

ROTATE CAMERA TO RIGHT-SIDE-UP. Olive and Elinor are standing on the floor, which is now neat and clean.

105 OLIVE 105
Yeah, the floor AND the ceiling!

106 ELINOR 106
Everything is in its special place.

107 OLIVE 107
Now we can finally go play with the super bouncy ball!

Ari looks around for a beat, panicked.

108 ARI 108
Uh oh, I forgot where I put the ball!

109 ELINOR/OLIVE 109
(groan)
Ari!

110 ARI 110
Just kidding!

Ari opens a small box ~~on his desk~~ and takes out the ball.

111 ARI (CONT'D) 111
Here it is in a special place I made just for my ball! Catch!

Ari, who is hanging upside down, drops the ball to Elinor, who does the spin move and catches it behind her back.

112 ELINOR 112
Super amazing toss-and-spin move! Ta-da!

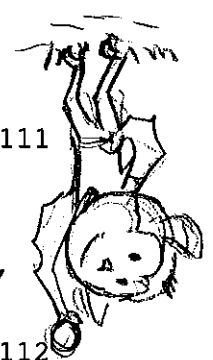
Elinor takes a few theatrical bows as the others giggle.

113 OLIVE/ARI 113
(laughs)

repeat from earlier in episode same set-up

still upside down

on cabinet (top)



Ari could possibly drop & hover above flapping his wings

IRIS OUT:

as they giggle - watercolor effect to white

THE END.