

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 103A The Science of Staying Warm

By: Miklos Perlus

Elinor's Question: Why do some animals get cold in winter while others stay warm.

Logline: Elinor wants to play outside in the snow with Olive and Ari, but Olive's heavy winter clothes keep getting in the way of their fun so she'd rather not wear it at all.

Curriculum Goals:

SEP6. Constructing Explanations. Look for and describe patterns and relationships in natural phenomena. (Elinor and her friends look for a pattern in which animals need winter clothes and which ones don't.)

LS2. Understand that animals have different body parts that are used in different ways to meet their needs and that plants have different parts that help them survive and grow. (Elinor comes to understand that some animals have fur, and that fur keeps them warm.)

ND1. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Patterns') Understand that modes of life in the natural world and engineered solutions in the designed world have common patterns, and engineers often look to natural patterns for inspiration. (Elinor understands that winter clothes fulfill the same function as fur, keeping animals warm in winter.)

Main Characters: Elinor, Olive, Ari.

Secondary Characters: Olive's Mom, Javier Moose

Incidental Characters: Sally, Rollie, Goat Twins, Bodie (NEW)

Settings: Animal Town, Olive's House, Snowy hill and field,

Props: Saucer Sled, snow bear, winter clothes, snow balls, snowboard,

OUTLINE: Dec-5-2018

FIRST DRAFT: Dec-18-2018

SECOND DRAFT: Jan-14-2019

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RECORD DRAFT: Feb-7-2019

1. EXT. ANIMAL TOWN - DAY

A pristine single snowflake flies over ANIMAL TOWN on a gentle breeze. As it floats through town, we see various town RESIDENTS opening their doors to marvel at a blanket of fresh white snow.

MR. PIG shivers at the cold air and heads back indoors.

MR. MOOSE takes a deep breath of cold air with a warm smile as he proceeds to shovel his walkway (without a jacket!).

The snowflake continues to fly through town, towards...

2. EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - HILL AND FIELD - CONTINUOUS

As the snowflake drifts, it passes a FIELD OF SNOW at the bottom of a MID-SIZED HILL where a group of children are playing <SFX: CHILDREN PLAYING>.

SALLY BEAVER (in earmuffs and mittens) is building an elaborate Snow-Beaver with carrot sticks for teeth.

THE GOAT TWINS (wearing only scarves) are pulling each other
on a toboggan.

JAVIER MOOSE (in just a scarf) is having a playful snowball fight with ROLLIE ARMADILLO (in full winter gear).

BODIE HIPPO (in snowsuit, helmet and goggles) is snowboarding down the hill.

The snowflake drifts toward OLIVE'S HOUSE, nestled near the hillside...

At OLIVE'S WINDOW, we see ELINOR through the glass, gazing longingly at all the fun outside.

The snowflake lands on the window, right where Elinor's nose is, then a light snow starts to fall.

3. INT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

1 ELINOR 1
 <gasp!> What a pretty snowflake!

Elinor (in SCARF AND MITTENS) hops with excitement!

2 ELINOR (CONT'D) 2
Hurry, Olive! It's time to play in
the SNOW!

13 OLIVE AND OLIVE'S MOM 13
<TRUMPET with their trunks> SFX.

Ari <chuckles> enjoying the sound.

14 ARI 14
(chuckling)
I love it when they do that.

SERIES OF JUMP CUTS: 14a <SNORE>

(MUSIC NOTE: the music starts out fast and energetic but gets slower and more tedious as Olive gets dressed.)

-- Olive's Mom helps Olive put on her snow pants.

-- Then her jacket.

-- Ari and Elinor wait. Elinor's leg keeps twitching.

-- Olive's Mom helps her put on her hat.

-- Then her scarf.

-- Then her mittens.

-- Ari and Elinor are sitting on the floor, still waiting.
Ari twiddles his thumbs.

-- Olive steps into one boot. Then the other.

-- Ari and Elinor are draped over the furniture. Ari is upside down.

-- Finally, Olive slides on her trunk-warmer (like a leg-warmer but for her trunk).

BACK TO SCENE:

Ari and Elinor have nodded off. Ari is SNORING.

15 OLIVE 15
<Ahem.>

Ari and Elinor wake up to see Olive in her WINTER GEAR. It's bulky and stiff like an inflatable Sumo suit.

16 OLIVE (CONT'D) 16
Sorry I took so long. It's my winter clothes. There's kind of a lot of them.

17 ELINOR 17
That's okay, Olive.

ARI

18

Ari and Elinor scamper to the door. They open the door and rush outside.

Elinor and Ari race outside.

ELINOR/ARI

19

Yay! /Woo!

But Olive remains INSIDE, in the doorway.

ELINOR

20

Olive? What's wrong?

OLIVE

21

I... I have to go to the bathroom.

Elinor and Ari turn to one another - Oh no! Exasperated, Ari collapses to his knees <beat> then falls forward into the snow.

5. EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - HILL AND FIELD - LATER

Elinor, Olive, and Ari rush towards the hill. Ari (in HELMET) scampers up the hill with his sled while Olive, moving slowly and awkwardly, trails behind. Elinor tosses a handful of powdery snow into the air.

ELINOR

22

(laughs)

Oh, this snow is perfect!

(shares a look with Olive)

Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

ELINOR/OLIVE

23

SNOW BIRDS!

Olive and Elinor plop down in the snow and start making SNOW BIRDS.

ELINOR/OLIVE (CONT'D)

24

<giggling>

Both enjoy the snow as they wave their arms and legs.

25

4 A

ELINOR

Ready to look at our Snow Birds,
Olive? One, two, three! 4B

25

Elinor pops up to look at her snow bird.

26

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Oooh. So pretty! How's yours,
Olive?

26

Olive tries to sit up -- but her bulky snowsuit is too heavy.
She's like a turtle on its back.

27

OLIVE

<efforts> Uh... Help?

27

28

ELINOR

<giggle> Olive! <effort>

28

Elinor GRUNTS as she pulls Olive up by her trunk.

Olive is forced to use her hands to push herself up. In doing
so, she distorts the shape of her Snow Bird.

29

OLIVE

(giggles)

My Snow Bird looks more like a snow-
jellyfish! <sigh> I wish my winter
clothes weren't so big and puffy.

29

30

ARI (O.S.)

Look out below!

30

Elinor and Olive turn to the hill to see Ari zigzagging down
THE HILL on his SAUCER SLED.

31

ARI (CONT'D)

Who-oaa! How do you steer this
thing?!

31

Ari flies by Elinor and Olive and OFF SCREEN - THUD.

32

ELINOR

Ari!

32

REVEAL Ari half buried in a pile of soft snow. He struggles
to get out (maybe NOT head first).

33

ARI

<efforts> I think I'm stuck.

33

Elinor pulls on Ari's leg, Olive grabs the other one. They
pull him out of the snow.

Olive hears some O.S. GIGGLES. She turns to see THE GOAT TWINS (wearing scarves) finishing off a SNOWBEAR (the snowbear has no clothes).

43 OLIVE (CONT'D) 43
Hmmm...

CUT TO:

6. EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - HILL AND FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

The snowbear is now wearing Olive's jacket, scarf, hat and mittens.

44 OLIVE 44
There. Now he looks cozy.

Suddenly a SNOWBALL splats against Olive's body.

45 JAVIER 45
Gotcha, Olive! <giggles> CUT

JAVIER MOOSE smiles as he makes another snowball.

46 OLIVE 46
Oh yeah? Well, now it's my turn, Javier. Snowball fight!

Olive chases after Javier moving faster in the snow now, rolling snowballs with her hands and launching them with her trunk. With three appendages working, and no winter clothes to slow her down, she's like a snowball-tossing machine! Javier gets hit multiple times.

47 JAVIER 47
Hey! <giggles> CUT

Olive bends down to pick up one more snowball, but suddenly feels a shiver.

48 OLIVE 48
<shivers>

As Olive rubs her hands for warmth, Elinor bounds towards her as Ari sleds by uncontrollably in the B.G.

49 ARI 49
(In the background)
Wh-Whoa..!

50 ELINOR 50
Hey Olive! Why didn't you come saucer sledding?

51 ELINOR (CONT'D) 51

Olive?

MATCH CUT TO:

52 OLIVE 52
Ahh. Th-that's b-b-better.

53 ELINOR 53
You got really cold out there,
Olive.

54 OLIVE 54
It's not fair. How come I have to
wear big, puffy winter clothes when
I go outside?

55 ELINOR 55
Other kids wear them too. Look at
Bodie. He's wearing a full
snowsuit.

Bodie stops right in front of ROLLIE ARMADILLO, spraying him with snow. They both laugh, enjoying the snow.

56 ELINOR (CONT'D) 56
And so is Rollie.

57 OLIVE 57
Hmm, but Javier isn't wearing a
thick jacket. And neither are Mary
or Lizzie.

58 ELINOR 58

Hmm... Some of our friends are wearing lots of winter clothes, and some aren't. That is SO INTERESTING.

59	OLIVE	59
	I wonder why that is?	
60	ELINOR	60
	I don't know... Let's go back outside and find out.	
61	OLIVE	61
	Uh, I think I'll stay inside...	

She cozies up under her blanket as Elinor goes to the door and pauses before charging outside.

62	ELINOR	62
	We need MORE OBSERVATIONS!	

8. INT./EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - HILL AND FIELD - DAY

MUSIC begins as Elinor bounces through the snowy field, SINGING...

63	ELINOR	63
	<i>There's no time like snow time/ When winter time is here./ Sliding, gliding, snowball fun/ What a time of year.</i>	

She approaches her friends Bodie Hippo, Javier Moose, and The Goat Twins MID-SNOWBALL PLAY.

64	ELINOR (CONT'D)	64
	<i>But when the snow has fallen/ And the lake has froze/ Different animals seem to wear/ Different kinds of clothes.</i>	

Elinor observes Bodie and Rollie closely...

65	ELINOR (CONT'D)	65
	<i>Some wear cozy snowsuits/ With scarves and mitts and hats.</i>	

Elinor observes the Goat Twins and Sally Beaver...

66	ELINOR (CONT'D)	66
	<i>Others wear their normal clothes/ Like goats and beavers --</i>	

67	ARI	67
	-- And bats! Ahhh!	

Ari comes spinning through frame on his saucer sled, out of control. He crashes into a fluffy white pile of snow - again. Elinor helps him out.

68

ELINOR/ARI

68

There's no time like snow time,
when winter time is here.
Saucer sledding, so much fun! What
a time of year! <laughter>

Ari flaps his wings, sending a SHOWER of snow cascading through the frame as we...

TRANSITION TO:

9. INT./EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - DAY

Elinor enters.

69

OLIVE

69

Well? Did you find anything out?

70

ELINOR

70

Yes and no. Some of us wear lots of
winter clothes and some of us wear
hardly any winter clothes at all.

71

OLIVE

71

Let's make a chart so we can see
what's the same and what's
different.

Olive grabs her PENCIL AND NOTEBOOK. She creates a T CHART.
On one side there's an icon of a SNOWSUIT. On the other side
is an icon of a T-SHIRT AND SHORTS.

72

OLIVE (CONT'D)

72

(to herself)
Wearing lots of winter clothes...
NOT wearing lots of winter clothes.
(to Elinor)
Okay. Tell me about what everybody
is wearing.

Elinor peers out THE WINDOW. As she describes her friends,
Olive sketches them.

73

ELINOR

73

Let's see... Bodie and Rollie are
wearing full snowsuits.

Olive finishes off a sketch of Bodie and Rollie in the
SNOWSUIT COLUMN.

74 OLIVE 74
Got it.

Elinor spots Javier Moose playing with Mary and Lizzie.

75 ELINOR 75
But Javier, Mary and Lizzie are
only wearing scarves over their
normal clothes.

Olive finishes a sketch of Javier and the goat twins in the T-SHIRT COLUMN. The two of them look at the chart, wondering what it means.

76 ELINOR (CONT'D) 76
Hmmm...

At that moment, ARI enters through the front door and shakes off some snow.

77 ARI 77
Phew! This saucer sled is awesome!
But kinda hard to control. Hey,
what are you guys doing?

78 ELINOR 78
We're trying to figure out why
~~Hazel~~ got so cold.

79 OLIVE 79
Yeah, some of us need lots of
winter clothes, and some of us
don't!

Ari takes a peek at Olive's notepad.

80 ARI 80
Ahh... well, you can put me in the
not-so-many winter clothes
category: I like to let my fur fly
free!

81 ELINOR 81
But we still don't know why --
wait. Fur! Ari, you have fur.

82 ARI 82
You bet I do!

Ari proudly offers his arm and Elinor gets up close and personal for a **SCIENCE MOMENT ECU** of Ari's fur.

83 ELINOR 83
And I have fur too!

SCIENCE MOMENT ECU of Elinor's fur.

84 ELINOR (CONT'D) 84
And I don't need winter clothes to
stay warm in the snow.

85 OLIVE 85
But I do! And I don't have fur.
Look!

SCIENCE MOMENT ECU of Olive's arm. There are tiny hairs, but
no fur.

86 ELINOR 86
That's it!
(checks the chart)
Our friends that don't have fur
need winter clothes to stay warm.
Like Bodie and Rollie --

87 OLIVE 87
-- And me! But our friends that do
have fur don't need a lot of winter
clothes.

88 ELINOR 88
Having fur helps keep you warm.
It's like having your own built-in
snowsuit!

Elinor and Ari look at their fur.

89 OLIVE 89
That's it! We figured it out!

90 ELINOR 90
YES!

Olive and Elinor hug in celebration. Then...

91 OLIVE 91
I wish I had fur like you guys, so
I didn't have to wear all those
wintery clothes.

92 ARI 92
Well, I wish I had a trunk like
you, so I could do that thing that
you and your Mom do.

93 OLIVE 93
You mean this? <TRUMPETS>

94	~~ARI~~ <laughs> Yeah. I love that.	94
95	OLIVE I guess we're all just different, and since I <u>don't</u> have fur...	95
Olive smiles, then grabs her winter gear.		
96	OLIVE (CONT'D) What are we waiting for? Let's get outside before the snow melts!	96
97	~~ELINOR/ARI/OLIVE~~ Yay!/Wahoo!/<TRUMPETS>	97

10. EXT. OLIVE'S HOUSE - FIELD AND HILL - DAY

Back outside, Ari, Elinor and Olive are standing at the top of the hill with Ari's saucer sled. Olive is wearing her full winter gear again.

98	~~ELINOR~~ Nice and warm, Olive?	98
99	OLIVE Yeah!	99
100	~~ARI~~ Are you guys sure? I still don't know how to steer this thing.	100
101	OLIVE You don't have to. Follow me!	101

Olive lies down in the snow, like she did when she fell, and slides down the hill on her back. Her winter clothes keep her warm as she carves a perfect bobsled path down the hill.

102	OLIVE (CONT'D) Yahooo!	102
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At the bottom, Olive struggles a little to get to her feet.

103	OLIVE (CONT'D) See! My snow clothes keep me warm AND they make a path in the snow! <effort> Come on you guys! There's no time like snow time!	103
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Ari and Elinor exchange a look. Then...

We see a polar bear enter.

111 *for eg.* MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 111
The polar bear has a very thick
coat of fur to stay warm!

The polar bear preens a bit, looks proud of itself.

112 OLIVE 112
Hey! One of my friends is a polar
bear! When she visits, she doesn't
even wear a jacket outside!

113 MS. MOLE 113
That's right!

We see the polar bear playing in the snow.

114 *for eg.* MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 114
Polar bears have thick coats of fur
on their skin that let them stay
warm on the ice.

We see the polar bear jump into the water.

115 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 115
Or even when they swim in the
freezing waters!

116 ELINOR 116
Ms Mole, why are polar bears always
white?

The polar bear floats on its back, relaxing, like it's a
sunny day at the pool. It's playing with its polar bear cubs.

117 MS. MOLE 117
Good question! Polar bears have
white fur so they can hide in the
snow! It's CAMOUFLAGE!

The polar bear doesn't react.

118 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 118
I SAID: so they can hide in the
snow!

The polar bear scrambles back onto the ice, hides in the
snow.

119 ELINOR 119
You can hardly see him!

120 OLIVE/ARI 120
Oooh!/Wow!

121 MS. MOLE 121
But that's not even the most
amazing thing about polar bears!

The polar bear looks interested, pokes his own fur.

122 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 122
Do you know what color a polar
bear's skin is underneath all that
fur?

123 ARI / ELINOR / OLIVE 123
Is it white too? / I'm pink under
my fur. / My skin is grey!

124 MS. MOLE 124
If you look closely, a polar bear's
skin is actually black underneath
the fur!

The polar bear looks surprised. He uses a paw to push some
hair out of the way, we see his skin is black. He looks
surprised and impressed with himself.

125 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 125
The thick white fur keeps them cozy
in the snow, and the black skin
underneath helps them soak up the
warm light from the sun.

3. INT SCHOOLROOM -- DAY

Ms. Mole closes the book. She is now wearing a polar bear
hoodie over her head in addition to her furry coat.

126 MS. MOLE 126
It's a good thing polar bears have
such special fur and skin! You
won't find a mole like me swimming
in freezing water!

She tries to take a sip of tea, but the mask is blocking her.

126A MOLE hilariously tea sip

END.