

Dee's script

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EWw121B Butterfly Drinks

By: Jorge Cham and Daniel Whiteson

Elinor's Question: How do butterflies drink from flowers?

Logline: Elinor loves her butterfly suit, but how is she supposed to drink when her arms are now wings?

Curriculum Goals: • 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:

- a. Identify body parts of animals and their function [They learn how butterflies have long straw-like mouths]
- LS3. Understand that all animals need food in order to live and grow, that they get their food from plants or from other animals, and that plants need water and light to live and grow:

- a. Observe ways that animals and plants get what they need to live and grow [Butterflies drink from flowers using their straw-like mouths]

- ND3. (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Structure and Function'): Understand that structures and materials in the natural world can be used or can inspire the engineering of structures with similar function in the designed world. [Straws are like an butterfly (or elephant) proboscis]

- 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 a new or improved object or tool (engineering) (Elinor asks questions about the butterfly, including how it drinks from flowers, and then she develops a drinking straw "proboscis" for her butterfly costume).

FIRST DRAFT: September 16, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: September 27, 2019

POLISH DRAFT: October 15, 2019

RECORD DRAFT: October 25, 2019

1. INT ELINOR'S SCHOOL -- DAY

It's a beautiful day in Animal Town. At school, MZ. MOLE is addressing the class just before letting them out at the end of their school day on a Friday.

1

MZ. MOLE

OK class, that's it for today. Oh, and don't forget, Monday is INSECT DAY! Everyone needs to come dressed as their favorite insect.

The class reacts enthusiastically with <SFX: YEAH!/COOL!/AWESOME! WALLA>.

2

CAMILLA

I love insects!

3

KOA

Yeah, they're so totally chill...

4

MZ. MOLE

Haha, yes they are. Alright, you little rug bugs, off you go!

The kids get up and bustle out excitedly.

2. EXT ELINOR'S SCHOOL -- DAY

Students are filing out of the school with <SFX: BYE MZ. MOLE!/SEE YOU LATER WALLA>, and we follow ELINOR, ARI and OLIVE as they head home. Olive is holding an INSECT BOOK, reading as she walks.

5

ELINOR

I can't wait for insect day. What kind of insect are you going to be, Ari?

6

ARI

I don't know. I haven't picked one. All I know is that it's gotta be super-duper cool.

Olive looks up from the book and then flips through some pages.

7

OLIVE

Wow, there are so many amazing kinds of insects.

Listen to this! Did you know that ants have TWO STOMACHS?

She points with her trunk at a diagram in her book of an ant and its two stomachs. Elinor and Ari <SFX: WHOA/COOL>.

8

ARI

I wish I had two stomachs! Then I could eat lunch TWICE!

Elinor <SFX: GIGGLES>. Olive flips to another page.

9

OLIVE

And did you know that caterpillars have TWELVE EYES?!

She points again, this time to a drawing of a caterpillar's head. <SFX: WHOA WALLA>

Elinor blinks a few times while Ari makes goggles with his hands around his eyes.

10

ELINOR

That's a lot of eyes!

Olive flips to another page.

11

OLIVE

<GASP!> And look! Did you know that ladybugs hide their wings under their shells by FOLDING them?

She points to a diagram of a ladybug and its wings.

12

ARI

That's awesome, Olive. Which insect are you going to pick for your costume?

13

OLIVE

I don't know! They are so many. I'm gonna have to read this whole book just to learn about all of them!

Ari turns to Elinor.

14

ARI

I think Olive is bugging out. Get it? BUGGING OUT.

15

ELINOR

<GIGGLES> I got it, Ari.

They all <SFX: LAUGH>.

16

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Well, I know what my insect costume is going to be.

17

OLIVE

~~Cool~~ tell us, Elinor!

18

ELINOR

I'm going to be... a butterfly!

Elinor does a little loop around, spreading her arms and flitting like a butterfly.

19

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I just think they are SO interesting. I love their big wings and all their colors and spots.

As Elinor flits about, Ari has a thought.

20

ARI

I've always wondered about butterflies.

21

OLIVE

Wondered what, Ari?

22

ARI

Why is it called a "butter fly"? Does it fly... like butter?

THOUGHT BUBBLE of a stick of butter with wings.

The kids <SFX: GIGGLE>. At that moment, Ari notices something in Olive's book.

23

ARI (CONT'D)

Oh, what's THAT one called?

On the book, we see a drawing of a dragonfly.

24

OLIVE

That one's called... a dragonfly.

25

ARI

A DRAGON-fly? Like a DRAGON? That flies?! That is SO cool!

Ari gets excited and starts running and stomping around, flapping his arms.

26

ARI (CONT'D)

I'm going to be a DRAGONfly! And breathe fire and look for treasure! RAAAARR!

27

OLIVE

I LOVE it - RAAAARR!

28

ARI

RAAAARR! Are you going to be a Dragonfly too, Olive?

29

OLIVE

No, I just like going RAAAARR!

Olive <SFX: LAUGHS> and joins Elinor and Ari, holding her book up as they all flit and run around to <SFX: LAUGHTER>.

3. EXT ELINOR'S HOUSE -- DAY

Later that day (or later that weekend), we open on an establishing shot of Elinor's house.

4. INT ELINOR'S KITCHEN -- DAY

Elinor comes into her kitchen carrying an armload of craft supplies. Her dad is finishing up something.

30

MR. RABBIT

Hi Elinor.

31

ELINOR

I can't talk right now, Dad, I'm super busy!

Elinor sets her things down on the table.

32

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I'm making a butterfly costume for insect day!

33

MR. RABBIT

Oh. Can I help?

34

ELINOR

Mmm, ok! You can be my assistant if you want.

35

MR. RABBIT

(chuckling)
You're the boss.

Mr. Rabbit sits down next to Elinor as she lays out her supplies.

36 ELINOR 36
 Mz. Mole said it has to be
 something special, so I want my
 costume to be *just* like a real
 butterfly.

37 MR. RABBIT 37
 How very scientific of you. Where
 do we start?

Elinor grabs a crayon and a notepad.

38 ELINOR 38
 We're gonna draw the costume, and
 then we're going to make it.

39 MR. RABBIT 39
 (smiling)
 Excellent plan! Sure I can't help?

40 ELINOR 40
 That's ok, dad. I know what a
 butterfly looks like.

Elinor sits at the table and draws a sketch while Mr. Rabbit looks on. She draws as she narrates.

41 ELINOR (CONT'D) 41
 Butterflies have a body, and a head
 with two antennae... and four
 butterfly wings...

She turns to her dad.

42 ELINOR (CONT'D) 42
 Some kids think a butterfly has two
 big wings, but actually, it has
 four.

She draws four lobes for the butterfly wings. Then she starts to draw the legs, but stops.

43 ELINOR (CONT'D) 43
 And it has one, two... Um... How
 many legs do butterflies have? Is
 it two? Or four...?

44 MR. RABBIT 44
 That's a good question, Elinor.

Mr. Rabbit looks out the window and spots some butterflies fluttering outside.

45 **MR. RABBIT** (CONT'D) 45
I see some butterflies outside. You
know, sometimes the best way to
know something is to see or hear it
for yourself.

Elinor looks out the window and sees the butterflies.

46 **ELINOR** 46
<GASP> Let's go outside and look at
the butterflies! Great idea, dad.

47 **MR. RABBIT** 47
I'm glad I could be helpful.

48 **ELINOR** 48
<GIGGLES> C'mon! We need more
observations!

They grab a magnifying glass from the counter and head out into the backyard, notepad in hand.

5. EXT ELINOR'S HOUSE -- DAY

49 **ELINOR** 49
Look, there's a butterfly!

They spot a butterfly flying and then landing on something (not a flower).

50 **ELINOR** (CONT'D) 50
Let's take a closer look.

They comically tip toe over to the butterfly.

51 **ELINOR** (CONT'D) 51
It's so amazing! I love
butterflies.

Elinor's Dad holds the magnifying glass, and they look closely at the legs.

52 **ELINOR** (CONT'D) 52
It has one, two, three, four,
five... six legs! Butterflies have
six legs.

She draws six legs in her butterfly sketch.

53 53
ELINOR (CONT'D)
 Wow! I thought I knew everything
 about butterflies, but they're even
 more interesting than I thought.

54 54
MR. RABBIT
 Good thing we checked.

55 55
ELINOR
 You're a good assistant, dad.

They both <SFX: GIGGLE>. The butterfly takes off.

56 56
ELINOR (CONT'D)
 Wow, there are so many butterflies
 today. I wonder what they're doing?

57 57
MR. RABBIT
 Well, the flowers are in bloom, so
 I think they're out drinking.

58 58
ELINOR
 Butterflies get thirsty?

59 59
MR. RABBIT
 And hungry! They drink their food
 from flowers.

60 60
ELINOR
 Oh, like bees?

61 61
MR. RABBIT
 That's right. They drink the
 nectar, that's the watery juice
 that flowers have inside.

62 62
ELINOR
 Ohhh...

Using the magnifying glass, they look closely at the flower.

63 63
MR. RABBIT
 See, this flower has its nectar all
 the way inside.

On a CU, we catch a glimpse of some nectar droplets near the
 bottom of the flower, where the petals meet.

64 64
ELINOR
 Now. Butterflies are the best!
 Let's go back and make the costume.

6. INT KITCHEN -- DAY

Back inside, they get to work. We have a little montage of them working on the costume: cutting out the wings, decorating them, making the shirt, attaching the legs, etc.

A cross-fade later, Mr. Rabbit stands in the kitchen, facing towards the living room.

65 MR. RABBIT 65
Ok, let's see it.

66 ELINOR 66
Ta da! We did it!

Elinor hops into view. She's wearing an adorable kid-made butterfly costume. The wings are made out of painted cardboard, and Elinor has her hands attached to the upper wings via some wrist straps.

Two small strings connects the upper and lower wings. She runs around the kitchen flapping her wings <SFX: GIGGLES/WALLA>.

67 MR. RABBIT 67
It looks great.

At that moment, RANGER RABBIT walks into the kitchen.

68 RANGER RABBIT 68
Oh my, there's a butterfly in our kitchen!

69 ELINOR 69
(giggling)
It's me, mom! I made a butterfly costume for school.

70 MR. RABBIT 70
Ahem.

71 ELINOR 71
I had some help.

72 RANGER RABBIT 72
I think it's lovely.

73 ELINOR 73
I wanted it to look just like a real butterfly, so we went outside to observe some.

Elinor shows off the features of her costume.

74

ELINOR (CONT'D)

See, it has six legs... And look, I can move my wings! Did you know that butterflies have FOUR wings, not two? I think it helps them fly. Watch!

74 build

Elinor moves her arms and flaps her wings.

75

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I can flyyyyy..!

75

Over collective <SFX: GIGGLES AND LAUGHTER>, Elinor runs around the kitchen flapping her wings.

76

RANGER RABBIT

Careful you don't fly away!

76

Mr. Rabbit goes over to the fridge and pours a couple of glasses of lemonade for all of them.

77

MR. RABBIT

All this assistant work has made me thirsty. I imagine you must be thirsty too, Elinor.

77

He hands one glass to Ranger Rabbit.

78

RANGER RABBIT

Thank you dear.

78

Then puts down a glass for Elinor on the table, then goes to grab his. The parents take a glass and sip appreciatively <SFX: SIPPING/SLURP>.

79

ELINOR

Yes. Just like a real butterfly, I'm thirsty too.

79

Elinor hops on top of one of the chairs and reaches for the glass, but her arms are stuck in the straps. (The wings don't bend forward enough for her to grab the glass, much less bring it up to her mouth). She tries several times <SFX: SMALL GRUNTS>.

7a Elinor

She seems momentarily confounded, smiles awkwardly at her parents, then tries another approach. She bends down and tries to sip directly from the glass. She aspirates over the glass, but unfortunately the lemonade is too far down. <SFX: HMMM>. Unfazed, she shifts positions and comically leans over and tries to lap the lemonade up with her tongue, tipping the glass over with her mouth.

↓

80

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Whoa, careful there, Elinor.

(1) 2 80

Ranger Rabbit grabs the glass before it tips over.

81

MR. RABBIT

You know, you can always take your arms out of the wings.

(1) 2 81

82

ELINOR

Yeah... I know.

(1)

82

She takes her arms out and holds the glass up.

83

ELINOR (CONT'D)

... but I wanted to drink just like a real butterfly does.

83

A BEAT, as Elinor studies the glass and curiosity builds up inside of her.

84

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Hmmm, I wonder... How do the real butterflies drink from the flowers?

lab 84

She sets the glass down again and looks at the lemonade from the side.

85

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I know that butterflies don't have hands. And I saw that the nectar was all the way inside the flower.

10 2 Wild Lab Comp 85

We see a thought bubble with a butterfly standing over a cut away view of a flower showing droplets of nectar inside [https://bit.ly/30Enqit].

86

ELINOR (CONT'D)

How do they get to the nectar to drink it?

lab 86

87

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Good question, Elinor. What do you think?

(1) 2 87

88

ELINOR

Maybe they tip the flower like a cup using their feet?

1 88

We see a thought bubble of a butterfly on its back holding a flower with its feet, looking silly.

89

ELINOR (CONT'D)

89

Or maybe they squeeze the nectar
out with their wings?

We see a thought bubble of a butterfly trying to squeeze a
flower (to no avail).

90

ELINOR (CONT'D)

90

Hmmm, that is SO INTERESTING.

91

MR. RABBIT

91

Remember the last time we had a
question about butterflies, Elinor?
What did we do?

92

ELINOR

92

We went outside to look at them.
Great idea, Dad! We need MORE
OBSERVATIONS!

Elinor puts her hands through the wing straps and flits
around once before heading out. She stops at the door.

93

ELINOR (CONT'D)

93

Um, can someone open the door for
me?

Mr. Rabbit opens the door for her.

94

ELINOR (CONT'D)

94

Thanks, Dad! Let's goooo...!

Mr. Rabbit follows her out, magnifying glass in hand.

95

MR. RABBIT

95

Right behind you, boss.

7. EXT YARD -- DAY

Elinor (still wearing the costume, but now with her arms
free) and her father come out back. There are butterflies
flitting around the yard.

96

ELINOR

96

There's one! Let's go watch it
drink from a flower.

They follow it around as it flits about. After a moment, the
butterfly lands and Elinor and her dad stealthily and
comically duck behind the bush.

aba
EID

97 **ELINOR** (CONT'D) 97
(comically loud whisper) I think
it's going to have a drink! lab.

98 **MR. RABBIT** 98
Think thirsty thoughts. 1 2 ab.

Using the magnifying glass, they watch as the butterfly
UNROLLS something from its head and pokes that into the
flower. [ref: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03S73-3Tw_0]

99 **ELINOR** 99
Wow! Did you see that? It unrolled
something from its mouth. 2a/ 2b 1 2 ab comp.

On a Science ECU moment, we see the butterfly drinking as it
slurps up the nectar.

100 **ELINOR** (CONT'D) 100
Look, it's using it to drink! It's
like a straw. That's how the
butterfly drinks from the flower. Lab build up

101 **MR. RABBIT** 101
Yes, that straw is called a
proboscis. It's a part of their
mouth. lab. 2 ab.

102 **ELINOR** 102
Wow, that is so cool. Butterflies
are even *more* interesting than I
thought! lab.

We hear the first beats of a ditty as the butterfly takes
off, followed by Elinor. As she follows the butterfly around,
she sings.

103 **ELINOR** (CONT'D) 103
Butterfly! Butterfly!
How do you drink from flowers?
Butterflies can't
Hold a cup
And they have no lips
To drink nectar up

But butterflies have
A special mouth
Long and thin
To suck nectar out

Butterfly! Butterfly!
How do you drink from flowers?
Butterfly! Butterfly!
(MORE)

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Sucking up juice
Is your special power!

As the song fades, Elinor has an idea.

104

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Dad, I think I know how to make my
butterfly costume even better!
C'mon!

104

8. INT CLASSROOM DAY - LATER ON

It's Insect Day! The kids in class are milling about wearing their insect costumes. Elinor comes in wearing her butterfly costume as before, and spots Olive, who is holding the insect book and wearing what looks like a worm costume.

105

ELINOR

Nice costume, Olive! But what are you?

105

106

OLIVE

I'm a special kind of beetle I read about in my book. It has a funny name that made it the perfect insect for me! You'll never guess what it's called.

106

107

ELINOR

What?

107

108

OLIVE

A bookworm!
(giggles)
Even though it's not a worm.

108

Elinor <SFX: GIGGLES>. At that moment, Ari joins them, holding three small cups.

109

ARI

Elinor! Nice butterfly costume.

109

110

OLIVE

Yeah, you look *just* like a real butterfly!

110

111

ELINOR

Thanks! I like your costume too, Ari.

111

cont

112

ARI

Thanks, it's a dragonfly, which I learned is not *actually* a dragon, but it's still super-duper cool. It's one of the best fliers in nature.

112

Ari sets the cups down on one of the kid tables and flutters up, zigging and zagging like a dragonfly. Elinor and Olive <SFX: WHOA/GIGGLE>.

113

OLIVE

What's in the cups, Ari?

113

114

ARI

Oh, Mz. Mole brought some honey water for everyone.

114

We look over and see Ms. Mole, wearing a funny bee costume, handing out little cups.

115

MZ. MOLE

Alright, everyone. Buzz on over and grab a drink. You must BEE thirsty! Haha!

115

116

OLIVE

Aww, that's so... sweet.

116

The kids <SFX: GIGGLE>. Ari and Olive grab their drinks and start drinking, then notice Elinor can't grab her drink.

117

ARI

Oh. Do you need help Elinor?

117

118

ELINOR

That's ok, Ari. I learned that butterflies are not just colorful, they're also really clever! Look how they drink!

118

She undoes her hands and reaches into a pocket to pull a rolled-up tube with an elastic strap. She places the tube on her mouth, pulls the strap over her head, and lets it go. The tube unravels into a long straw.

Design description question: does she need to blow into the tube to make it unravel? If so then she can't suck inwards to drink? Do we just cheat it and allow gravity to unravel it once its in her mouth?

With her hands back in the wing straps, she dips the tube into her drink from semi-far away and drinks away <SFX: GLUG GLUG>.

118a
E.

119

OLIVE

Wow, that is so clever.

119

120

ARI

I didn't know butterflies could do that.

120

Elinor finishes her drink and lets the tube hang from the strap.

121

ELINOR

See, being a butterfly doesn't BUG me at all.

121

<SFX: LAUGHTER> as the kids fly and run around. We cut to outside to see a worm (baby beetle) and a dragonfly on tall grass. A butterfly flies in, and we...

IRIS OUT

*

121a...