

1. INT. ELINOR'S GRANDPARENTS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

BIBI (Elinor's Grandma) is tending to a small cactus in a pot and is getting ready to go out to the back yard, when the <SFX: DOORBELL RINGS>. She opens the door and we see that MR. RABBIT and RANGER RABBIT are here for a visit.

1 ~~MR. RABBIT~~
Did anyone order a rabbit family?

2 BIBI
Ahh, come here you!

She grabs his cheeks and shakes them all about comically.

3 BIBI (CONT'D)
My favorite son!

Mr. Rabbit recovers from the shaking.

4 ~~MR. RABBIT~~
Your favorite? Uh, Mom, I'm your only son.

5 BIBI
Well, it's a good thing you're my favorite then.
(to Ranger Rabbit)
And my favourite daughter-in-law, soo good to see you, dear.

6 ~~RANGER RABBIT~~
You too, BiBi.

BiBi gives Ranger Rabbit a kiss on the cheek then she realizes something:

7 BIBI
Where's Elinor?

BiBi winks at Ranger Rabbit.

8 ~~RANGER RABBIT~~
I don't know. But guess WHOOO has a special surprise for you.

Elinor jumps from behind Ranger Rabbit, dressed in her owl girl costume.

9 ELINOR
(calling out)
Surprise! Whoo, whoooo!

10 BIBI 10
 Oh, wow! An owl!
 (bends down to Elinor)
 I've never had an owl visit me
 before.

11 ELINOR 11
 BiBi! It's me!

12 BIBI 12
 Elinor! I thought you were a real
 owl.

13 ELINOR 13
 Fooled ya! Do you like my owl
 costume? I made it for costume day
 at school. Mom helped a little.

14 RANGER RABBIT 14
 Yes, and since then she's been
 wearing it.. a lot.

15 ELINOR 15
 Every day! Owls are some of my
 favorite animals.

16 BIBI 16
 Really? I love owls too.

17 BIBI AND ELINOR 17
 (in unison)
 They're SOOOO interesting!

18 RANGER RABBIT 18
 (to Elinor)
 Well, we're helping your Grandpa
 today, honey bunny, and that means
 you're going to stay with BiBi for
 the afternoon.

19 ELINOR 19
 Awesome! But where IS Baba?

20 BIBI 20
 He's doing some work over at the
 community center, so it's just you
 and me, kiddo.

21 ELINOR 21
 Yay! I can't wait to tell you all
 about owls, BiBi. I know everything
 there is to know about them!

1 a b c d

1 2 3

1 a b c d

1 2 3

1 2 3

1 a b c d

1 a b c d

22 BIBI 22
Everything?
23 ELINOR 23
Yep. Everything!
24 BIBI 24
Well, I wouldn't be so sure of
that, Elinor. Nature always seems
to find a way to surprise you.

Elinor thinks about this for a beat.

25 ELINOR 25
Hmmm... No, I'm pretty sure I know
everything about owls. Watch me!

Elinor runs around the living room, hooting <SFX: HOOT, HOOT
WALLA> as her parents watch from the doorway. On everyone's
<SFX: LAUGHTER> we CROSSFADE TO:

2. EXT. BACK YARD -- A LITTLE LATER

Elinor is flying around the back yard (still in costume).
<SFX: HOOT, HOOT, HOOT WALLA> BiBi putters near her potting
shed (DESIGN NOTE: BiBi is now wearing her gardening apron,
where she keeps a trowel). Elinor swoops in.

26 ELINOR 26
Whatcha doin' BiBi?
27 BIBI 27
A little investigation. I'm trying
to figure out which type of sand my
cactuses like the best.

ANGLE ON: Three small-ish Saguaro cactuses (this is the
classic desert cactus with arms) in pots.
<https://images.app.goo.gl/ZUhz15K37j6yUx5R7>

28 ELINOR 28
Whoa, cool!! Well, I did a lot of
investigating about owls with my
Mom, and that's how I know all
about them.

THOUGHT BUBBLE, we see what Elinor knows about owls:

29 ELINOR (CONT'D) 29
Owls sleep all day, and they're
only awake at night.
(MORE)

ELINOR (CONT'D)

They're super good at flying
(whoosh!), and they live waaay up
in the trees. I observed them
myself!

BiBi looks at her fondly.

30

BIBI

30

That's wonderful, Owl Girl Elinor,
~~but just remember, a good scientist~~
knows there's always more to find
out, so keep asking questions.

Elinor has heard this all before.

31

ELINOR

31

And that means make lots and LOTS
of OBSERVATIONS!

32

BIBI

32

Exactly!

Elinor continues to fly around <SFX: HOOT, HOOT WALLA> and
starts looking around the yard while BiBi continues repotting
her cactuses. After noticing some interesting things close by
(a rock, a flower on a cactus, a beetle) <SFX: OOOH WALLA>
Elinor looks out beyond the yard (there's no fence) where she
can see the wide-open desert.

33

ELINOR

33

Woowooow!

3. EXT. DESERT -- DAY

Elinor walks out (not too far) and enjoys the view of the
beautiful desert. She sees a dune, a huge cactus, maybe a
lizard who scurries off. Suddenly Elinor hears a little <SFX:
RUSTLING> in the very small patch of grass just beyond.

34

ELINOR

34

What's that?

She peers over to see... Two big yellow eyes!

35

ELINOR (CONT'D)

35

Two eyes?

The two yellow eyes reveal themselves to be a small bird that
looks like an owl.

<https://images.app.goo.gl/2FtVzY9KbcV7WZXFA>

36

ELINOR (CONT'D)

(to herself)

<GASP!> It's an OWL! Hello, little owl. Look at me, I'm an owl too. Hoot! Hoot!

36

The owl stares back.

37

ELINOR (CONT'D)

(realizing)

Wait a minute...

(checks the sky)

It's the middle of the day.

(To the owl)

Why are you awake, little owl? You're supposed to be sleeping right now, so you can be awake at night. That's what owls do!

(Back to herself, puzzled)

I wonder why this owl isn't sleeping.

37

Elinor slowly approaches the owl, moving between shrubs. Suddenly, the owl takes off running.

38

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Huh? Now it's running on the ground? But owls are supposed to fly in the sky.

(thinking)

Is that even an owl?

38

CU: On Elinor's confused look, we crossfade to.

4. EXT. BACK YARD -- DAY

BiBi is tending to her cactuses when suddenly Elinor runs up.

39

ELINOR

BiBi! BiBi! I just saw an impossible animal!

39

40

BIBI

A what?

40

41

ELINOR

An animal that can't be! It looks like an animal that I know, but it's not doing the things that it's supposed to do!

41

BiBi is intrigued.

42 BIBI 42
 An impossible animal? That is sooo
 interesting.

43 ELINOR 43
 I know. I don't understand.

44 BIBI 44
 Well, you know what a scientist
 does when she sees something she
 doesn't understand.

Elinor thinks about it for a beat, then...

45 ELINOR 45
 Yes! She needs...

46 BIBI AND ELINOR 46
 (in unison)
 MORE OBSERVATIONS!

47 ELINOR 47
 Come on, BiBi!

BiBi and Elinor head out into the desert behind BiBi's house
 to observe the mysterious animal.

5. EXT. DESERT -- DAY

Elinor and BiBi find a good observation spot.

48 ELINOR 48
 This is where I saw the impossible
 animal.

49 BIBI 49
 Ok, let's wait and watch.

50 ELINOR 50
 We'd better hide, so we don't scare
 it off.

51 BIBI 51
 Good idea.

BiBi and Elinor hide behind a small pile of rocks. A beat,
 then their ears rise up first and scan around. Another beat,
 then their faces both (comically) rise up from behind the
 rocks together. They are in full recon mode. Elinor looks
 one way, BiBi looks the other, then they switch. Suddenly...

52 ELINOR 52
 (whispering)
 There it is!

Elinor points. ANGLE ON: the little owl.

53 ELINOR (CONT'D) 53
 That's the animal I saw earlier.

54 BIBI 54
 It looks like an owl.

55 ELINOR 55
 It *looks* like an owl, but it can't
 be an owl.

56 BIBI 56
 Why not?

57 ELINOR 57
 Because this bird is awake during
 the day and owls are only awake at
 NIGHT. I also saw it run on the
 ground, but owls are supposed to
 fly.

At this point, BiBi realizes what's going on.

58 BIBI 58
 Ooooh, I see.

The little owl hops over closer to them, and they have a
 moment together to admire it.

59 ELINOR 59
 It's coming closer.

60 BIBI 60
 Aww, it's pretty cute.

At that moment the owl runs off!

61 ELINOR 61
 BiBi look! It's running away!
 Let's follow it so we can keep
 observing.

CUTE ACTION SEQUENCE: Elinor and BiBi keep a respectful (and humorous) distance, hiding as they go. They follow the little owl (which can run surprisingly fast) across the desert.

ANGLE ON: The little bird runs into its burrowing hole. Elinor stops and points.

12 ab M.

12 ab 02

12 build lost

12 ab A. M

12

12 ab lost

62

ELINOR (CONT'D)

(amazed)

BiBi! The little bird went into that hole in the ground. Do you think that's where it lives?

62

63

BIBI

Sure looks like it. Holes in the ground like that are called burrows.

63

ANGLE ON: The little owl pokes its head out, then retreats.

64

ELINOR

Wow.

(making up her mind)

Then it's definitely *not* an owl, because owls live in trees. I OBSERVED that.

64

The owl comes out and starts puttering around the burrow. Elinor observes it and starts to have second thoughts.

65

ELINOR (CONT'D)

(unsure)

Only... It really does *look* like an owl. It's got big eyes, and a beak, and feathers...

65

66

BIBI

That's true.

66

67

ELINOR

But how can it be an owl if it's awake in the day, and runs on the ground, and lives in a hole?

67

68

BIBI

That's a really good question Elinor.

68

69

ELINOR

(confused)

I just don't get it.

69

Peak confusion for Elinor. BiBi thinks about how to help. Suddenly, she spots an odd-looking little cactus to the side of them. (maybe a Buckthorn Cholla)
https://cals.arizona.edu/yuma/plant_index/cylindropuntia_acanthocarpa%20.htm

Or something else cool - here are other options:
<https://www.foldingguides.com/product/cacti-of-the-desert-southwest-poster-cardset-of-6-greeting-cards/>

70 BIBI 70
Oh, look. Just what I was looking
for.

BiBi points to the unusual cactus and makes a show of finding
it.

71 BIBI (CONT'D) 71
I found another cactus for my
~~investigation. Isn't it a beauty?~~

BiBi uses her spade to dig it out and show it to Elinor.

72 ELINOR 72
Uhhhm, are you sure that's a
cactus, BiBi? It doesn't look
anything like your other cactuses.

73 BIBI 73
Good observation! But this IS a
cactus.

CU: on the cactus plant, BiBi compares it to a nearby example
of the Saguaro cactus.

74 BIBI (CONT'D) 74
There are many different kinds of
cactuses, and they are not all the
same. Nature is full of things that
look similar at first but when you
look more closely there are
differences - like those two rocks.

Bibi points. Angle on: two similar rocks, but one has a
striation.

75 ELINOR 75
Oh, I see. One has a stripe.

76 BIBI 76
But they are both rocks.

Elinor appreciates what Bibi just said. She looks back and
forth between the owl and the cactuses. After a beat, a
realization starts to dawn on Elinor.

77 ELINOR 77
Ooooooh.

She looks back at the owl.

78

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Hmmm... Maybe this animal IS an owl, but it's just a different kind of owl.

CU: On the cute little bird.

79

ELINOR (CONT'D)

Maybe that kind of owl doesn't sleep all day, or fly up high or live in trees.

80

BIBI

Hmmmm. Now THAT is an interesting idea.

BiBi puts her cactus in her gardening apron.

81

ELINOR

What do you think, BiBi? Is it a different kind of owl?

82

BIBI

As a matter fact, it is. Good thinking, little scientist. There ARE different kinds of owls, just like there are different kinds of cactuses and different kinds of rocks. This one here is called a burrowing owl.

83

ELINOR

Oh, I know! Is it because they live in burrows?

84

BIBI

That's right. Burrowing Owls live in the desert and stay awake during the day. And guess what else? They don't make the holes they live in. They use holes that other animals made and don't need anymore.

85

ELINOR

Awww, what a smart little owl.

CU: On the owl, it does look smart.

86

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I thought I knew everything there was to know about owls, but I guess I didn't.

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87 BIBI 87
Nature is full of surprises,
Elinor. There's always more to
learn.

At that moment, as they look at the owl, they observe it
laying small rocks and bits of (natural) desert debris out in
front of its burrow.

88 ELINOR 88
What's it doing now?

89 BIBI 89
I don't know. I've never seen a
burrowing owl do that. I wonder
why.

90 ELINOR 90
Maybe it's decorating its front
door.

91 BIBI 91
Maybe. Or maybe that's its rock
collection.

They <SFX: GIGGLE > together.

ANGLE ON: The owl puts the desert debris in a little semi-
circle around its hole.

92 ELINOR 92
It looks like its making a little
fence.

A sand tortoise walks by, then pauses and keeps going.

93 ELINOR (CONT'D) 93
Look! That turtle was going to walk
into the hole, but it got stopped
by the sticks and rocks.
(a beat, then she
realizes)
Maybe the owl put them there to
keep other animals out.

94 BIBI 94
I think you're right Elinor.
That's amazing. I didn't know
burrowing owls did that.

95 ELINOR 95
You didn't? Really? I guess there
IS always more to learn. Even for
my BiBi!

2 abc

2

1 2 a b

2 last build

2 abc build left

SONG - Elinor and BiBi sing together.

96 ELINOR AND BIBI 96

ALL: Nature is full of surprises,
The closer you look,
The more you will see,
Animals are all shapes and sizes
Nature is FULL of surprises.

~~ELINOR: I thought there was only~~
one kind of owl.
That sleeps all day and flies
about.

BIBI: Keep your mind open, and look
all around,

ELINOR: You might find an owl that
runs on the ground.

ALL: Nature is full of surprises,
The closer you look,
The more you will see,
Animals are all shapes and sizes
Nature is FULL of surprises.

We CROSS FADE:

6. INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

We only see BiBi (and a pile of couch cushions) as the <SFX:
DOORBELL RINGS> again. BiBi opens the door.

97 ~~MR. RABBIT~~ 97
We're back! 12

98 BIBI 98
Aww, my favourite rabbit family.

They exchange kisses.

99 ~~RANGER RABBIT~~ 99
So, did you and Elinor have fun 12
today?

100 BIBI 100
Of course! We made lots of
observations. It was all sooo
interesting.

101 ~~RANGER RABBIT~~ 101
Where is Elinor anyway? 12 300

102 BIBI 102

Oh, I'm not sure. She was around here some...

Suddenly, Elinor comes out of a burrow she had made from the couch cushions.

103 ~~ELINOR~~ 103

Surprise!

After <SFX: LAUGHTER> Elinor gestures to the mound of pillows.

104 ~~ELINOR~~ (CONT'D) 104

Whooo-who. Do you like my burrow?

105 ~~MR. RABBIT~~ 105

Your burrow? I didn't know Owls had burrows.

106 ~~ELINOR~~ 106

Neither did I. But then Bibi and I met a special kind of owl. It's awake during the day, runs on the ground, and lives in a burrow!

107 ~~MR. RABBIT~~ 107

Really!

108 ~~ELINOR~~ 108

It's amazing, isn't it? Nature is full of surprises.

109 ~~RANGER RABBIT~~ 109

Well, I'm glad you had fun Owl Girl Elinor.

110 ~~ELINOR~~ 110

That's Burrowing Owl Girl Elinor, Mom. And you know what that means...

111 ~~RANGER RABBIT~~ 111

What?

Elinor takes off running around the room.

112 ~~ELINOR~~ 112

You can't catch meeee!

We end in <SFX: LAUGHTER>.

FADE OUT.

1. EXT DESERT -- DAY

118	SR. TAPIR (SINGS)	118
	O - O - Roseli Ocampo	
	Wanted to know	
	(MORE)	

SR. TAPIR (SINGS) (CONT'D)

All the places where life could
grow,

Roseli walks through the WARM, ARID DESERT looking at the
extent of life.

Well all life is alive!
It needs water to survive
Rain drops water from the sky
~~But in the desert it's very dry.~~

Roseli continues her walk through the WARM, ARID DESERT and
sees plants and animals adapted to living there.

Roseli in the desert,
Saw life all around,
She was amazed at the creatures
that she found,

Close-up on Roseli as she stoops to examine a plant in the
desert. A cute horned toad climbs up on her shoulder to look
at the same plant. It looks at the camera and shrugs.

O - O - Roseli Ocampo
Wanted to know
If things could live in the desert
cold!

119

~~OLIVE~~ (SPOKEN) (O.S.)
Deserts can be cold!?

120

SR. TAPIR (SPOKEN)
Yes, that's right!

Roseli walks on, passing behind a huge saguaro cactus. As
she does, her clothes change to ARCTIC GEAR and the setting
changes to a lifeless ARCTIC DESERT.

121

SR. TAPIR (SUNG) (CONT'D)

121

Deserts can be cold or hot
Cold deserts are a very tough spot
Roseli wanted to know
Is this a place life could grow?

Roseli looks closely at a horizontal band in a cliff face.
She scrapes off some of the rock and holds it in both hands,
carefully inspecting it.

Roseli looked everywhere,
And what do you know?
She found life *even there!*

30%
abcde
1 2 ab. cde
1 abcde fgh!

EXTREME ZOOM into the rock that Roseli is holding and examining. AS IF THROUGH A MICROSCOPE, we see links of green ovals, gently swaying. Cyanobacteria from Antarctica. BACK ON: Roseli looks surprised and happy.

O - O - Roseli Ocampo
Now she knows!
Life can live in the desert cold.

~~Roseli continues her march though the Antarctic desert. Fade to white.~~

BACK ON: Senior Tapir and the kids. <SFX: KIDS CHEER>

122

ARI

So, maybe we have to look more closely to find animals here.

122

123

ELINOR

I see some over there! Look!

123

Elinor points off to the left. There they see cacti, a tortoise slowly shuffling in the shade, and a lizard scamper by. <SFX: WHOA COOL WALLA>

THE END.