

# ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW 123 Interstitial

Señor Tapir Ballad

Roseli Ocampo-Friedman - "Roseli in Antarctica"

Robert Kalinowski

Follows: "Burrowing Owl Girl"

Curriculum: the kids learn that Roseli Ocampo-Friedman was a Philippine born botanist who wondered if life could exist in even the harshest deserts on Earth, so she went to the Ross Desert in Antarctica and found out!

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:

FIRST DRAFT: Sept. 11, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: September 30, 2019

POLISH DRAFT: October 16, 2019

1. EXT DESERT -- DAY

ARI 1  
Phew! I'm thirsty!

The kids stop and look up at the landscape in front of them. They see sun-soaked hills and a few hardy plants.

<SFX: GUITAR TUNING>

The kids turn around and are surprised to see Señor Tapir in the desert.

<SFX: YAY WALLA> Senior Tapir stands and stretches his back to sing and play the guitar. The kids gather close by.

2. EXT OUTSIDE (SONG ANIMATION) -- DAY

In simplified song animation, we see young Roseli Ocampo in a WARM, ARID DESERT similar to Bibi's area, examining a plant.

[ Note to composers: this song has a somewhat variable rhyming and rhythm scheme. Please feel free to massage lyrics to make the music work.]

6 SR. TAPIR (SINGS) 6  
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!

|   |                               |   |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| 7 | OLIVE (SPOKEN) (O.S.)         | 7 |
|   | Deserts can be <i>cold</i> !? |   |

|   |                    |   |
|---|--------------------|---|
| 8 | SR. TAPIR (SPOKEN) | 8 |
|   | 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.

|   |                                                                                                                               |   |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 9 | SR. TAPIR (SUNG) (CONT'D)                                                                                                     | 9 |
|   | Deserts can be cold or hot<br>Cold deserts are a very tough spot<br>Roseli wanted to know<br>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*!

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>

|    |                                                                 |    |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 10 | ARI                                                             | 10 |
|    | So, maybe we have to look more<br>closely to find animals here. |    |
| 11 | ELINOR                                                          | 11 |
|    | I see some over there! Look!                                    |    |

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.