

## ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EP 124B Strawberry Jam  
By Katherine Sandford

Elinor's Question: Where do strawberries come from?

Logline: Elinor's Dad's perfect birthday camping breakfast is less-than-perfect when they run out of strawberry jam.

Curriculum Goals; LS4. Understand that all animals and plants have a life cycle, can reproduce, and change and grow over time: a. Observe the life cycle of familiar plants and animals b. Observe the growth in animals and plants c. Understand that living things grow and change over time. (Elinor and Olive observe the life cycle of the strawberry plant)

SEP1. Asking questions (science) and defining problems (engineering) a. Demonstrate curiosity about the greater world outside of their local environment b. Ask more complex questions about observable phenomena (Elinor and Olive explore the strawberry field near their campground and ask questions about what they find.)

SEP3. Planning and carrying out investigations a. Identify and use a greater variety of tools to extend the senses for observing, measuring, and recording data about objects and events b. Compare and contrast objects and events by describing similarities and differences in detail d. With guidance, plan and conduct simple investigations using simple tools. e. Design and build a solution to a simple problem (engineering) (Elinor and Olive use the magnifying glass and notebook to examine the strawberries, then decide to make strawberry jam).

SEP4. Analyzing and interpreting data a. Collect, describe, and record observations in greater detail and in various ways b. Use the 5 senses and simple tools to gather and record data c. Record observations to describe patterns and/or relationships in the natural and designed world(s) in order to answer scientific questions and solve problems. (Elinor and Olive collect, observe, describe and record the various stages of strawberries.)

MAINS: Elinor, Olive, Mr. Rabbit, Ranger Rabbit

SETTINGS: Campsite, Cooking Area, Forest/Strawberry Field

PROPS: Paper flower, birthday card, coffee cup, camping gear, strawberry blossoms, strawberries (green, white, red), magnifying glass, notebook and coloured crayons, bowl, potato masher, camp stove, can, toast.

FIRST DRAFT: 04-Sept-19

SECOND DRAFT: 30-Sept-19

ii.

POLISH: 07-Nov-19  
**RECORD DRAFT: 29-Nov-19**

1. EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY

CU: On ELINOR and OLIVE's happy little faces, <SFX: GIGGLING LIKE MAD> in anticipation. They are tucked in a pup-tent gluing together construction paper and tissue flowers (that look very fake). Olive tapes on the last petal.

1

~~ELINOR~~  
(whispering)  
Ready?

1

Olive nods. The kids sneak out of the tent, Elinor has a nice big home-made card, Olive has the flowers. In the near-distance they see MR. RABBIT, sitting in a camping chair, enjoying the morning. With a <SFX: GIGGLE and a SHHHH> they sneak up to him and...

2

~~ELINOR/OLIVE~~  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY DADDY/MR. RABBIT!!

Dad jumps tipping his chair and falling over.

3

~~MR. RABBIT~~  
Wha? What happened? Who's there?

He stands to straighten his chair upright.

4

~~ELINOR~~  
It's us! Did we surprise you, Daddy?

5

~~MR. RABBIT~~  
Oh, sweetie, you sure did...

6

~~ELINOR~~  
GOOD! We want you to have a REALLY special birthday...

Olive hands him the paper flowers.

7

~~OLIVE~~  
We made these ourselves, just for you!

8

~~MR. RABBIT~~  
They're beautiful.  
(takes a big, comic SNIFF)  
Oooh, they smell so goooood!

Olive and Elinor <SFX: GIGGLE> even more.

9

~~ELINOR~~  
(giggling)  
Those flowers don't smell, Daddy.

9

10

~~OLIVE~~  
(giggling)  
They're made of paper!

10

11

~~RABBIT~~  
Oh? Well they're still beautiful.

11

Elinor hands him the home-made card.

12

~~ELINOR~~  
And here's your birthday card we made.

12

Mr. Rabbit admires the card as CU: Elinor points out the drawings.

13

~~ELINOR (CONT'D)~~  
See, it's you, doing all your favorite things. This is you working in the flower garden.

13

Elinor points to her drawing - Dad in the flower garden.

14

~~ELINOR (CONT'D)~~  
And this is you taking care of the flowers in our house.

14

Another drawing- Dad taking care of his African Violet collection.

15

~~ELINOR (CONT'D)~~  
And THIS is the time we went looking for wildflower seeds.

15

Final image: Elinor and her Dad walking in a field of wildflowers.

WIDEN: Ranger Rabbit walks OS with TWO cups of coffee.

16

~~RANGER RABBIT~~  
Do I sense a pattern here?

16

17

~~ELINOR~~  
FLOWERS!

17

Ranger Rabbit hands Mr. Rabbit one of the cups of coffee and they enjoy them together.

18

~~RABBIT~~  
(to Ranger Rabbit)  
Thank you. What can I say? Elinor knows her Dad.  
(to Elinor)  
(MORE)

18

~~ELINOR~~ (CONT'D)

Best birthday card ever, hunny  
bunny.

He gives her a big hug as he holds up his coffee  
protectively.

19

~~ELINOR~~

Olive helped.

19

20

~~RABBIT~~

Thanks, Olive. We're so happy you  
came on our camping trip. And it  
just so happens to be my birthday  
too.

20

21

~~OLIVE~~

Happy birthday, Mr. Rabbit.

21

Olive high-fives Mr. Rabbit.

22

~~RABBIT~~

It IS a happy birthday Olive -  
there's nothing I like more than  
camping out in nature - ahhhhh,  
it's my favorite thing.

22

23

~~ELINOR~~

I know something else you'd like on  
your birthday, Dad... BREAKFAST!

23

24

~~RABBIT~~

Breakfast? That's my other  
favorite thing - how did you know?

24

On <SFX: GIGGLES>, we cross-fade to...

## 2. EXT. COOKING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Over by the cooking area (camp fire, small camp stove) Ranger  
Rabbit has just finished toasting the toast.

25

~~RABBIT~~

Okay, you girls are in charge of  
putting jam on the toast.

25

26

~~ELINOR~~

That's the best part!

26

As Ranger Rabbit hands Elinor the toast, Olive looks inside  
the jam jar.

27

~~OLIVE~~

Wha-oh, the jam jar is empty.

27

28

~~ELINOR~~  
What? No strawberry jam? That's  
Dad's favorite thing to put on his  
toast!

(to her Mom)

Mom, we have to go to the store  
right now and get more jam.

29

~~RANGER RABBIT~~  
Sorry sweetie, there's no store out  
here in the forest.

At this moment Dad comes over.

30

~~RABBIT~~  
Don't worry, Elinor. I don't need  
jam on my toast... I'll just eat  
it... plain.

He <SFX: TAKES A BITE, THEN CHEWS, CHEWS, CHEWS> Then drinks  
a whole cup of coffee. <SFX: GULP>

31

~~RABBIT~~ (CONT'D)  
Good thing we brought lots of  
coffee.

Elinor and Olive look at each other. <SFX: HMMMMM>.

### 3. EXT. CAMPSITE - LATER

The kids are rinsing the dishes in a bucket with special,  
safe-for-living things soap and discussing the situation.

32

~~ELINOR~~  
Dad loves strawberry jam on his  
toast. <SIGH> I wish he could have  
some for his birthday.

33

~~OLIVE~~  
I know, but what can we do?

Ranger Rabbit overhears and comes over, figuring things out  
as she goes along.

34

~~RABBIT~~  
Hmm... I have an idea. Why don't we  
MAKE some strawberry jam.

35

~~ELINOR~~  
You can MAKE jam?

36

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Sure. Even the jam you buy in the store is made by someone. First, we need some strawberries.

12

36

37

~~OLIVE~~

But where are we going to get the strawberries if we can't go to the store?

12

37

38

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Well, it's strawberry season, so there should be wild strawberries growing all around.

12

38

39

~~OLIVE~~

Really?

12

39

40

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Yep, I saw a strawberry patch in the field right beside us. You know what they look like, right?

12

40

41

~~ELINOR~~

Sure! Big and red and juicy!

12

41

42

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Right! Why don't you girls go see if you can find some strawberries. I'll tell Dad to watch the campfire, and meet you in the field in a minute.

12

42

The girls react with a <SFX WALLA: YES/YAY!>

43

~~RANGER RABBIT~~ (CONT'D)

(calling)

Now remember, you can't eat berries you find without an adult there.

12

43

44

~~ELINOR~~

Got it!

12

44

45

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Off you GOOO!!

12

45

(DESIGN NOTE: perhaps the campsite is on a little rise overlooking the strawberry field? And Ranger Rabbit is looking out? Whatever the design it should be clear that the kids remain within Elinor's parents' view. (Director's note: we can reuse the lake location design we created - the strawberry field can be nearby just off the surrounding beach/dirt that circles the lake.)

**4. EXT. FOREST/STAWBERRY FIELD - DAY**

Elinor and Olive make their way through the trees and step out into the sunlight. Their faces light up with the glory of what they see before them.

THEIR POV: The splendor of an early summer meadow of grasses, wildflowers, bees and butterflies all dappled in sweet morning sunshine. <SFX: Oooooh!>.

46 ~~OLIVE~~ 46  
This is where your mom said there  
might be strawberries.

47 ~~ELINOR~~ 47  
Let's find 'em!

WIDEN: Olive runs and Elinor hops all over the pretty field.

48 ~~ELINOR (CONT'D)~~ 48  
(as she bounces)  
No strawberries here! No  
strawberries here! And no  
strawberries here either.

49 ~~OLIVE~~ 49  
(calling)  
Strawberries! Where are youoooo?

50 ~~ELINOR~~ 50  
(giggling)  
The strawberries can't hear you  
Olive. They don't have ears.

51 ~~OLIVE~~ 51  
Oh, right.  
(she sees something)  
Oooooh, look at these, Elinor.

ANGLE ON: Some pretty white strawberry blossoms.

52 ~~OLIVE (CONT'D)~~ 52  
Flowers! They're beautiful but  
we're not looking for flowers,  
we're looking for strawber...oh,  
wait, what's this?

Olive and Elinor see something beside the strawberry blossoms.

53 ~~OLIVE (CONT'D)~~ 53  
Berries! Could they be  
strawberries?

54

~~ELINOR~~

I'm not sure... they have the same shape as strawberries. And they have the same seeds as strawberries.

1

54

55

~~OLIVE~~

But they're ~~are~~ small and white, hmmm.

1 2

55

The kids look puzzled for a beat. Then Olive looks around and spots something close by to the left of these berries. She uncovers some green strawberries.

56

~~OLIVE~~ (CONT'D)

Ooh. Are these strawberries?

1 2

56

57

~~ELINOR~~

Maybe. But these are green and even smaller. I've never heard of green strawberries.

1 2

57

Elinor looks around and sees something in a different spot (also close by) to the right of the white strawberries. ANGLE ON: big, RED berries.

58

~~ELINOR~~ (CONT'D)

<GASP!> Now THESE are strawberries.

1 2

58

59

~~OLIVE~~

Yep. They're shaped like strawberries AND they're big and red!

1 2

59

The kids look excited, but then Elinor gets curious.

60

~~ELINOR~~

But wait, what about the green and white berries we found. What are those?

1 2

60

61

~~OLIVE~~

I'm not sure. Could they be strawberries too?...Dun, dun dun! Sounds like a strawberry mystery!

1 2 3

61

62

~~ELINOR~~

We need MORE observations!

1 2

62

They crouch down to examine the strawberries.

63

~~OLIVE~~

Ok, let's see. First, we found these white strawberries.

1 2

63

Olive points. ANGLE ON: the white berries.

64

~~ELINOR~~

Then we found the small green ones.

64

Elinor points ANGLE ON: the green berries.

65

~~OLIVE~~

Then we found the red ones.

65

Olive points ANGLE ON: the red berries. We zoom out to see all three types of strawberries in front of them.

66

~~ELINOR~~

They're all the same strawberry shape.

66

67

~~OLIVE~~

But they're different colors and sizes. Why is that?

67

68

~~ELINOR~~

Hmm, maybe someone painted them different colors? Like a berry fairy.

68

THOUGHT BUBBLE shows a fairy painting the strawberries in different colors.

69

~~OLIVE~~

<GIGGLE> But why are they different sizes?

69

Elinor thinks about this question <SFX: HMMM>. A thought bubble forms over her that shows one of each of the three berries in front of her. A dotted line connects the tops of the three berries, showing that the size increases in this order.

70

~~ELINOR~~

(she thinks, then)  
<GASP!> I know why!

70

THOUGHT BUBBLE BURSTS:

71

~~OLIVE~~

Is it the berry fairy?

71

72

~~ELINOR~~

No, look at this.

72

Elinor looks down at the berries in front of her.

73

~~ELINOR~~ (CONT'D)

If you look at the strawberries like this...green, white, red.

73

CU as she points to each of the berries: green, white, red. Then angle on the three types of berries at the same time.

74

~~ELINOR~~ (CONT'D)

It's like the strawberry is getting bigger.

74

75

~~OLIVE~~

Like it's growing!

75

76

~~ELINOR~~

Yes! Maybe the green strawberry is like the baby strawberry. And as it grows, it changes color.

76

77

~~OLIVE~~

I think you could be right, Elinor.

77

At this moment Ranger Rabbit appears with a basket in her hand.

78

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Hi, kids.

78

79

~~ELINOR~~

Mom! We found strawberries!

79

80

~~OLIVE~~

At least we THINK they're all strawberries. That's what we observed.

80

81

~~ELINOR~~

See? The small ones are green, the medium-sized ones are white and the big ones are RED!

81

82

~~OLIVE~~

We think maybe the strawberries change their color as they grow.

82

83

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

Great thinking, scientists! Strawberries don't just show up big and red; they start as flowers. Then they turn into small berries that grow and change color over time.

83

As Ranger Rabbit talks, a thought bubble forms that shows a real strawberry grow from a flower to a nice red strawberry.

84

~~OLIVE~~

Really? The white flowers change into strawberries?

84

85

~~ELINOR~~

Yup.

85

86

~~ELINOR~~

That is sooo interesting.

86

87

~~OLIVE~~

Ranger Rabbit, if these are all strawberries, can we use all of them to make jam?

88

~~ELINOR~~

Good question, Olive. Do you think they all taste the same?

88

89

~~OLIVE~~

Hmmm I think they should, because they're all strawberries. But I'm not sure.

89

Elinor has an idea.

90

~~ELINOR~~

Oooh, we should taste them. Can we Mom?

91

~~RANGER RABBIT~~

You sure can, and I'm really glad you asked. Remember, you can't eat wild berries without an adult there.

91

Elinor picks up a green strawberry and feels it.

92

~~ELINOR~~

The green ones feel very hard.  
(she tries to bite it but can't)

I can't tell what it tastes like!  
It's too hard to bite.

92

Olive then picks up a white berry.

93

~~OLIVE~~

The white ones are a little softer and...

(MORE)

93

~~OLIVE~~ (CONT'D)  
(she bites it and makes a  
funny face)  
BOY are they sour!

Elinor is handed the white berry and takes a bite.

94

~~ELINOR~~  
REALLY sour!

94

Elinor's sour face is even funnier. The girls <SFX: GIGGLE>,  
then hand the berry to Mom.

95

~~MOM~~  
Well, if I must, for science.

Mom bites the berry, her Sour Face is hilarious! The girls  
<SFX: LAUGH LIKE MAD!>. Then Elinor picks up a red berry.

96

~~ELINOR~~  
The red one is nice and soft.  
(sniffing)  
It REALLY smells like strawberries,  
and it tastes...  
(she bites)  
Mmmmmmmmmmm.

96

She hands the berry to Olive who takes a bite too.

97

~~OLIVE~~  
(mouth full)  
So yummy!!

97

Olive makes a happy face. Elinor looks at the berry clusters  
in front of them.

98

~~ELINOR~~  
It's not just the size and color  
that changes when strawberries  
grow. The taste changes too!

98

99

~~MOM~~  
Nice observation. Strawberries turn  
red and juicy and sweet as they  
grow. When they're red and sweet we  
say that they are RIPE. Most fruits  
are not ready to pick and eat until  
they are ripe.

99

100

~~ELINOR~~  
Ripe means it's ready to eat!

100

101

~~OLIVE~~  
Mmm. Ripe. I like that word.

101

102

~~SELEN RABBIT~~  
It IS a good word. Now why don't you pick a big basket of red, ripe strawberries and then we'll make some jam for Dad's birthday.

102

The girls cheer <SFX: YAY!!> and start collecting a big basket of luscious, ripe, red strawberries. CROSSFADE TO:

**5. EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY**

Mr. Rabbit is reading in his hammock as the girls enter with their basket full of strawberries. They tip-toe over to the cooking area without him seeing them. <SFX: SHHH WALLA> Ranger Rabbit quickly washes the berries in a bucket of water and puts them in a bowl. Ranger Rabbit hands the girls a bowl of berries and a potato masher.

103

~~SELEN RABBIT~~  
OK! First step is to squish the strawberries...Squish away, girls.

103

Olive and Elinor both grab hold of the potato masher handle and <SFX: SQUISH, SQUISH> together. Elinor takes a taste.

104

~~ELINOR~~  
Hmmm, these squished strawberries are yummy, but they don't taste like jam yet.

104

Olive tastes a little bit too, then Elinor takes the last finger-full of jam from the jar.

105

~~OLIVE~~  
The jam from the jar is jammier.

105

106

~~RANGER RABBIT~~  
That's because we're not done yet. To make our jam thicker and sweeter, we have to add some sugar and then cook it on the stove.

106

MONTAGE: Elinor and Olive take the tops off the last few berries, put them in a bowl and start squishing. Then the girls add the sugar and Ranger Rabbit cooks it over the camp stove as they sing their song.

107

~~ELINOR/OLIVE~~  
BOTH: Strawberry jam, strawberry jam,  
We're gonna make some strawberry jam,

107

(MORE)

ELINOR/OLIVE (CONT'D)

We'll squish up the berries and  
cook them on the stove,  
Dad's gonna love our Strawberry  
Jam!

OLIVE: Fruit starts out small and  
hard,  
Then it grows and gets soft and  
sweet,

ELINOR: When it's nice and big and  
juicy,  
Then it's ripe and ready to eat.

BOTH: Strawberry jam, strawberry  
jam,  
We're gonna make some strawberry  
jam,  
We'll squish up the berries and  
cook them in a can.  
Dad's gonna love our Strawberry  
Jam!

Strawberries start as flowers so  
bright,  
That turn into berries, delish!  
Small green berries grow big and  
white!  
When they're red, they're ready to  
squish. Woo-hoo!

BOTH: Strawberry jam, strawberry  
jam,  
We're gonna make some strawberry  
jam,  
We'll squish up the berries and  
cook them on the stove.  
Dad's gonna love our Strawberry  
Jam!

After the song, Ranger Rabbit lifts a spoon to her lips and  
blows to make sure it's cool, then she tastes.

108

~~RANGER RABBIT~~  
Mmmm, I think this is ready. What  
do you girls think?

108

Elinor and Olive each take a taste.

109

~~ELINOR~~  
Now THAT is yummy strawberry jam.

109

Olive nods. Olive and Elinor slather it on the toast, then  
they sneak up on Dad once again.

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
108 a 2ab  
108 a  
109

110

~~ELINOR/OLIVE~~  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY DADDY/MR.RABBIT!!

110

Dad JUMPS out of his hammock, <SFX: WHOOOAAAA!!!>. (Or maybe it can spin around, cartoon-style).

111

Look!

112

We made you some JAM!

Dad recovers.

113

What? You made this?

114

Uh-huh. Olive and I found strawberries in a strawberry patch.

115

And then we squished up the red berries, and cooked them into jam.

116

What do you think?

Dad takes a big bite <SFX: CRUNCH> then...

117

(mouth full)  
It's delicious!

Elinor gives her Dad a big jammy birthday hug.

118

I think this is the BERRY best birthday I've ever had! Get it? BERRY best?

Elinor, Olive and Ranger Rabbit <SFX: LAUGH/GROAN>

119

Oh, dear. I think we've "jammed" enough words for the day.

On <SFX: LAUGHTER/GIGGLES>, we...

IRIS OUT, THE  
END.