

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW127B: LEAF CHARMS

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Elinor's Question: Are all leaves the same shape?

Logline: Elinor and Camilla learn to appreciate all the charming shapes of leaves.

Curriculum Goals:

LS6. Understand that individuals of the same kind of plant or animal are recognizable as similar but can also vary in many ways:

a. Contrast individuals of the same kinds of plant and animal [they compare leaves]

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. [the leaves inspire the charms]

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1. EXT. FOREST -- DAY

It's a beautiful late summer/early fall day, and ELINOR and her mom, RANGER RABBIT, are walking through the forest. Ranger Rabbit is carrying a set of rolled up blueprints.

Elinor is zigging and zagging here and there, curiously looking at things.

1

ELINOR

Oooh, look at this bug, Mom. It has big horns on its head!

1

She runs up to a rock on the side of the path and looks closer at a rhinoceros beetle. The beetle pauses its lazy walk, then continues on. Elinor looks up and sees something else on the other side. [Pincushion flower, *Leucospermum cordifolium*] She runs across.

2

ELINOR (CONT'D)

And this flower is so cool. It has so many petals. Isn't it interesting?

2

She checks out the interesting-looking flower. Ranger Rabbit walks up and checks it out herself.

3

RANGER RABBIT

Huh. That IS an interesting flower, Elinor.

3

Elinor gets up and continues her exploring, <SFX: GIGGLING>.

4

ELINOR

I just love exploring. I always find something new!

4

Ranger Rabbit smiles.

5

RANGER RABBIT

Exploring is a lot of fun, but we should get going or we'll be late.

5

Elinor stops and looks puzzled.

6

ELINOR

Where are we going again, Mom?

6

7

RANGER RABBIT

To Camilla's house. I need to speak with her mom about the plans for a new forest trail, and you two can play together.

7

Elinor looks excited.

8 ELINOR 8
Oh yeah. (realizes) I've never been
to Camilla's house before. I wonder
what we're going to play?

9 RANGER RABBIT 9
I'm sure you'll find lots of ways
to have fun.

Elinor has an idea.

10 ELINOR 10
I know exactly what Camilla and I
can play.

11 RANGER RABBIT 11
Let me guess... exploring?

12 ELINOR 12
Yes! It's so much fun. Wheeeee!

Elinor runs up ahead, arms out like an airplane, curving here
and there with excitement.

2. EXT. CAMILLA'S HOUSE - DAY

Elinor and her mom approach Camilla's house. It's a little
different than most houses in Animal Town in that it's larger
and a bit fancier. Elinor spots something on the ground.

13 ELINOR 13
What's this?

Elinor crouches down and notices an unusual leaf on the
ground. (Ginkgo: <https://images.fineartamerica.com/images-medium-large-5/ginkgo-leaf-gustoimagesscience-photo-library.jpg>).

14 ELINOR (CONT'D) 14
Oohhh! What an interesting leaf. It
looks like a little fan!

Elinor fans herself to demo. Then Ranger Rabbit reaches the
front of the house, then turns around to call Elinor.

15 RANGER RABBIT 15
C'mon Elinor, we're here.

Elinor puts the leaf back down and scampers to catch up with
her mom.

Ranger Rabbit approaches the front steps and we see Camilla's mother SANDY on the porch, relaxing in a chair at a small patio table.

16

MS. DROMEDARY
Ranger Rabbit! Elinor! Welcome!
Come up and sit with me.

16

3. EXT CAMILLA'S HOUSE PORCH

Ranger Rabbit and Elinor join Camilla's mother MS. SANDY DROMEDARY on the porch. Sandy greets them.

17

RANGER RABBIT
Hi, Ms. Dromedary.

17

18

MS. DROMEDARY
It's so great to see you both! I
was just about to have my drink of
water for the week. Would you like
to join me?

18

19

RANGER RABBIT
Sure, thank you.

19

Ms. Dromedary steps into the house. They take seats around the patio table. Elinor looks a little puzzled.

20

ELINOR
Water for the week?

20

Before Ranger Rabbit can answer Ms. Dromedary comes back with a tray holding three ENORMOUS glasses (10-20L) of water and puts them on the table. She has long straws and hands Elinor and her mom one each..

21

MS. DROMEDARY
Here you go.

21

Elinor's eyes go wide at the huge glass.

22

RANGER RABBIT
Oh, uh, thank you. That's... a lot
of water.

22

23

ELINOR
Ms. Dromedary, you only drink water
once a week?

23

24

MS. DROMEDARY
Yes, we camels can drink a lot of
water, and store it inside our
bodies for later.
(MORE)

24

Ms. Dromedary guzzles her water with remarkable speed <SFX:
SLLLURRRPPP!>.

Elinor and her mom look at each other and take little sips
<SFX: SIPS>. Ms. Dromedary finishes her glass <SFX: AHHH>.

27 RANGER RABBIT 27
Yes, thank you... I'm not sure I'll
finish all of this, though.

Sandy leans over and uses her own straw to finish it for her.

30 RANGER RABBIT 30
(bringing out the
blueprints)
Ok, should we talk about the new
forest trail plans?

32 ELINOR 32
Excuse me, is Camilla inside?

34 RANGER RABBIT 34
Go ahead, honey bunny. We'll see
you later.

As Ranger Rabbit takes out the plans and the adults start talking <SFX: PROJECT PLANS/HOW INTERESTING/HMMM WALLA>, Elinor hops off her chair and into the house.

4. EXT./INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Elinor stands in front of Camilla's door (we know it's her door because it's decorated with kid things). Elinor <SFX: KNOCKS>, somewhat hesitantly.

35 CAMILLA (O.S.) 35
Who is it?

36 ELINOR 36
Hi, Camilla, it's me, Elinor.

After a beat, the door opens. From off-screen we hear Camilla singing some royal fanfare.

37 CAMILLA (O.S.) 37
(singing)
TOOT-TOO-TOOOT!
(speaking)
Presenting, her royal majesty,
QUEEN CAMILLA!

After a moment, Camilla emerges from behind the door, parading ceremoniously. She's wearing a few pieces of toy jewelry and a little crown.

38 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 38
(with a slightly
exaggerated royal accent)
Why, hello, Elinor. How are you
this fine morning?

Elinor plays along, <SFX: GIGGLING> and curtsying.

39 ELINOR 39
I am fine. How are you, Queen
Camilla?

Camilla breaks character slightly, <SFX: GIGGLING> a little also.

40 CAMILLA 40
Oh, you know... being the queen
keeps me SOOO busy. Would you like
a tour of my royal chambers?

41 ELINOR 41
Ok! I mean... (gesturing graciously
with her hand) I would love to see
your room.

The girls <SFX: GIGGLE> slightly as Camilla leads them into the room. Camilla's room is decked out in castle decorations. 41A

42 CAMILLA 42
Here is my royal dresser...

They walk past the fairy-tale-like dresser.

43 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 43
Here are my royal books...

Elinor and Camilla walk past her bookshelf, which is shaped like a castle tower.

44 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 44
My royal bed...

They walk past her bed.

45 CAMILLA (CONT'D) 45
And, most important of all, the royal jewels.

They end in Camilla's little dressing table, which is full of stands of sparkly toy necklaces and bracelets made of colorful charms.

46 ELINOR 46
Wow... cool...

Elinor looks at all the shiny jewels.

47 CAMILLA 47
Isn't it cool? I just love things with flair.

Elinor looks curious.

48 ELINOR 48
Flair? What's flair?

49 CAMILLA 49
It's when things are unique and special. See, each one of these charms is different.

Camilla gestures to the charms and we get a quick tour of them: There are stars and hearts and silly things like ice cream cones but also some natural things like fish shapes and flowers.

50 ELINOR 50
They're so shiny.

51 CAMILLA 51
I have a royal idea of what we should play.

52 ELINOR 52
Oh! I know, is it going outside to
explore?

53 CAMILLA 53
Explore?

54 ELINOR 54
Yeah, we could go out and look at
things in Nature, like trees and
plants...

55	CAMILLA	55
	Hmm, I don't know. Outside doesn't have a lot of flair. It all looks the same and it's all so... green.	
56	ELINOR	56
	Oh. Mmm, well--	
57	CAMILLA	57
	But I know something we can play right here.	

CROSS-FADE TO:

PULL OUT to reveal that Camilla has blinged out Elinor:
Elinor is now wearing a little crown too and is loaded with
charm necklaces and bracelets on her neck, wrists and even on
her ears!

58 CAMILLA 58
That's perfect! Now you have lots
of flair.

59	ELINOR	59
	Wow, I look like a queen too.	
60	CAMILLA	60
	Queen Camilla and Queen Elinor!	

They <SFX: GIGGLE> together.

61

CAMILLA (CONT'D)
And now, I'm going to give you my
favorite necklace.

61

She reaches over to the table and grabs a special beaded
necklace with a single charm.

62

CAMILLA (CONT'D)
See, it has a very special charm.

62

She moves it towards Elinor and holds it up, and we see the
charm is actually a shiny version of the leaf that Elinor saw
earlier outside. Elinor <SFX: GASPS!>!

63

ELINOR
Camilla, I just saw that outside.
There was a leaf that looks just
like this charm.

63

64

CAMILLA
Really? A leaf? Are you sure?

64

65

ELINOR
Yeah, the leaf I saw looked just
like this.

65

Camilla is amazed and has an idea.

66

CAMILLA
Elinor, you must show me. Want to
go outside and look for it?

66

67

ELINOR
Ok!

67

Elinor starts to take off some of the bling.

68

CAMILLA
But first, we need to tell our
royal subjects.

68

69

ELINOR
Our royal subjects?

69

70

CAMILLA
Yes, our parents!

70

Elinor <SFX: OH!> and they both <SFX: GIGGLE>.

70A —————>

6. EXT. CAMILLA'S HOUSE PORCH - DAY

Elinor and Camilla pass through the porch on their way out.
Elinor is no longer blinged out (or is less blinged out).

71	ELINOR	71
	Mom, we're going out to the forest.	
72	RANGER RABBIT	72
	What are you kids up to?	
73	CAMILLA	73
	We're on a royal quest!	
74	ELINOR	74
	To find a leaf!	
75	MS. DROMEDARY	75
	Good luck, your highnesses.	

The girls <SFX: GIGGLE> as they walk down the front steps.

7. EXT. CAMILLA'S HOUSE - DAY

Elinor and Camilla walk down the path in front of the house together. Elinor looks around a bit, then finds the spot where she had seen the leaf earlier. She runs over to it, followed by Camilla.

76	ELINOR	76
	Here it is!	
	She picks up the leaf and shows it to Camilla.	
77	CAMILLA	77
	Wow, you're right, Elinor. It does look like my favorite charm.	
	Camilla compares it to the charm she is wearing and they are indeed the same.	
78	CAMILLA (CONT'D)	78
	They're both flat and they both look like a little fan. But...aren't all leaves the same shape?	

She looks around and picks up a regular oval-shaped leaf from the ground.

79

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

79

I thought all leaves looked the same, like this one - an oval with pointy ends.

We see the two leaves next to each other.

80

ELINOR

80

They're both leaves. Not all leaves look the same, I learned that with my observations. Each kind of plant makes a different kind of leaf.

Elinor takes the rounded leaf and hops over to the nearby tree where that leaf came from.

81

ELINOR (CONT'D)

81

See, this leaf came from this tree.

Camilla approaches the tree and sees that all the leaves look the same: rounded and pointy.

82

CAMILLA

82

Ohhh... so each kind of plant makes its own kind of leaf. That is so...

She's at a loss for words.

83

ELINOR

83

Interesting?

84

CAMILLA

84

Yes! Does that mean there's a whole tree or plant with leaves that look like this one?

Camilla holds up the ginkgo leaf. In a THOUGHT BUBBLE, Camilla imagines herself standing next to a ginkgo tree. She looks closer at a branch full of leaves. The bubble fades.

85

ELINOR

85

There must be! Hmmm... I don't see it around here. Should we go look for it?

Camilla thinks for a beat, then makes a royal gesture.

86

CAMILLA

86

I think that's a royal idea!

They <SFX: GIGGLE> and they run off into the forest with a <SFX: C'MON!> as we hear the first beats of the ditty.

BoA

8. EXT. FOREST -- DAY

As the ditty plays, Elinor and Camilla explore the forest looking for the plant and tree that has leaves that look like the ginkgo leaf they are holding. While they explore, we see them holding the ginkgo leaf next to all kinds of leaves of different shapes and sizes. At each stop, we see Camilla collecting samples of the leaves she finds on the ground.

87

ELINOR/CAMILLA

87

Let's look here,
Let's look there,
Leaves are lying
Everywhere!

Some are pointy,
Some are round,
(Camilla) Look at this one I just
found!

Some are long
Some are thin
(Elinor) That's the biggest leaf
I've ever seen! Woo-hoo!

Let's look here,
Let's look there,
Who knew Nature had
So much flair!

End song:

CROSSFADE TO:

9. EXT. CLEARING - DAY

Elinor and Camilla standing in a clearing. Camilla is holding an arm full of different leaf samples.

88

CAMILLA

88

Wow, Elinor, I had no idea there
were SO many different kinds of
leaves. Look, this one is so big...
and this one is so small.

Camilla holds up a really big leaf and a really small leaf from her collection next to the ginkgo leaf Elinor is holding.

89

ELINOR

89

Isn't it amazing how leaves can be
so many different sizes?

90

CAMILLA

90

And look, they can be lots of different shapes. This one is really round...

She holds up a nearly circular leaf and compares it to several interestingly shaped leaves.

91

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

91

This one is really squiggly, and this one is really pointy.

92

ELINOR

92

Awesome!

93

CAMILLA

93

And I thought all leaves were green, but they're not. Look, we found a purple leaf, and a yellow leaf... and a red leaf...

She next holds up leaves of different colors.

94

ELINOR

94

Yeah, most leaves are green, but they can also be different colors.

Elinor looks at the ginkgo leaf she's holding.

95

ELINOR (CONT'D)

95

Hmmm... but we still haven't found the tree or plant that *this* leaf comes from.

They look around puzzled for a beat. Suddenly, a single leaf brought in by the wind falls right on Elinor's nose. It looks like the ginkgo leaf, but it's yellow.

96

ELINOR (CONT'D)

96

Huh? Camilla, look. It's the same kind of leaf. But... it's yellow?

They hold up the two leaves next to each other and see that one is yellow and the other is green.

97

CAMILLA

97

Whoa...

At that moment, another yellow ginkgo leaf falls near them.

98

ELINOR

98

C'mon, I think they're coming from over here.

They follow the trail of falling yellow leaves for a short distance. They part some bushes and come upon... a big ginkgo tree. Half of its leaves have turned a beautiful golden yellow color and some of them are falling already.

99 CAMILLA 99
Wow, we found it! It's the tree
with the leaves just like my charm.

They stand under the tree, admiring it.

100 ELINOR 100
The leaves are starting to turn
yellow. It must be almost fall.

Camilla picks up a yellow leaf and adds it to her collection.

101 CAMILLA 101
I'm so glad we went exploring,
Elinor.

102 ELINOR 102
Me too! I always find something
interesting.

103 CAMILLA 103
All these leaves have given me a
fabulous idea. C'mon, let's go back
to my house!

Holding the leaves, they head off-screen back towards the house.

CROSSFADE TO:

10. EXT./INT. CAMILLA'S BEDROOM - LATER

Ranger Rabbit and Ms. Dromedary walk up to Camilla's door, and knock slightly.

104 MS. DROMEDARY 104
Your highness? Camilla, it's time
for Elinor to go home.

105 CAMILLA (O.S.) 105
Ok, we are almost ready!

We hear some crashing and banging. The adults exchange a look and raise their eyebrows. The door opens. We hear Elinor and Camilla singing the royal fanfare sound.

106	ELINOR/CAMILLA (singing) TOOT-TOO-TOOT!	106
107	ELINOR Presenting... Queen Camilla and Queen Elinor!	107
108	ELINOR/CAMILLA Ta-da!	108
Elinor is fully blinged out (as before, not with leaves), and Camilla is also blinged out... but with leaves!		
109	RANGER RABBIT Wow, you girls look amazing.	109
110	CAMILLA I'm wearing leaf charms!	110
111	ELINOR We went outside to explore, and found lots of different kinds of leaves, Mom.	111
112	CAMILLA Yeah, I thought all leaves were the same. The same size, the same shape, the same color... But ACTUALLY there are lots of different kinds of leaves.	112
113	ELINOR See, there are round leaves and big leaves and squiggly leaves...	113
114	CAMILLA And yellow leaves!	114
115	RANGER RABBIT That's right, kids. Different trees and plants have different kinds of leaves.	115
116	ELINOR Nature is so much fun to explore.	116
117	CAMILLA Yes! As queen, I proclaim it's true: Nature has a LOT of FLAIR!	117

They all <SFX: LAUGH> as we...

FADE OUT

*