

ELINOR'S TOWN

EP 106 Hiding In Plain Sight

By: Tom Berger

Elinor's Question: How can we hide so that we're harder to find?

Logline: With their keen eyesight, the goat twins are too good at hide and go seek, so Elinor and her friends have to figure out a better way to hide.

Curriculum Goals: (suggested by Sara)

Constructing Explanations (science) and Designing Solutions (engineering)

o Use background knowledge experiences, and data to construct reasonable explanations and theories of natural phenomena (may not be scientifically correct, rather naïve theories) (science)

o Look for and describe patterns and relationships in natural phenomena (science)

o Use and apply productive science discourse to support an explanation (e.g., think out loud, revise and rethink)

o Use evidence to support a theory (science) or solution to a problem (engineering)

LS2. Understand that animals have different body parts that are used in different ways to meet their needs - Animals have different shapes, patterns and colors to help them blend in with their surroundings and "hide".

Main Characters: Elinor, Hazel, Ari, Mary, Liv

Secondary Characters: Ms. Mole

Incidental Characters: Camilla, Tito, Koa, Sally

Backgrounds - Schoolyard - various

Props - swingset, sand-box, lotus flowers, leaves, katydid, pile of twigs, brown toad, bird

OUTLINE: December 7, 2018

FIRST DRAFT: January 3, 2019

SECOND DRAFT: January 15, 2019

POLISH: January 24, 2019

1. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - DAY

PAN across the schoolyard as kids run to find hiding spots, under the supervision of MS. MOLE. CAMILLA hides behind the corner of the school, TITO hides behind a TREE near the playground. The goat twins, MARY and LIV, count near the classroom door, swapping every number.

1	MARY	1
	One... Three... Five... etc.	

LIV

2

...Two... Four... Six etc.

The <COUNTING> continues as ELINOR, OLIVE, and ARI stand near, looking around frantically. *

3 ELINOR 3
We need to find somewhere to hide!

4 OLIVE 4 *

Hurry! Mary and Liv are almost done counting.

ARI

Less talking, more hiding, C'mon!

The kids run off in search of hiding spots.

2. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS *

Ari sticks his head into a brightly colored BUSH, leaving his lower half clearly visible.

Elinor tries to hide behind a TREE, but bumps into KOA. *

6 ELINOR 6
Oops, sorry! I didn't see you there
Koa! Where can *I* hide? *

(she looks around)

Aha!

Elinor runs off towards the playground.

3. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Olive tries to tuck herself behind THE LEG OF THE SWING SET. *
It's so skinny that no student could hide behind it. She *
manages to conceal her trunk, but little else. *

Elinor lays down behind the SANDBOX and peeks over it. BEAT. *
SALLY BEAVER rises and peeks over it next to Elinor. *

7 ELINOR 7
Oh, hi Sally. I guess *this* spot is
taken too!

Sally nods as Elinor runs off towards the SLIDE and ducks behind it. She's pleased with this spot, though she stands out obviously.

8 ELINOR (SOTTO) (CONT'D) 8
There's no way Mary and Liv will *
find me here!

9 MARY / LIV (O.S.) 9
Ready or not, here we come!

4. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

The twins run up to Ari in the bush. *

10 MARY 10
<GIGGLES> Um, Ari?

11	ARI	11	
	SHH! I'm trying to hide from-		*
	(he pokes his head up and		
	sees the goats)		
	...Mary and Liv. Aw shucks.		*

The twins run off.

5. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Mary and Liv run into the playground, and spot Olive behind
the leg of the swing set.

12	LIV	12	*
	Nice try Olive, Found you!		*

13	OLIVE	13	*
	Oh well... at least my trunk was		*
	hidden.		*

She wiggles her trunk. The twins run up on either side of Elinor, surprising her.

14 MARY / LIV 14
Found you Elinor!

15 ELINOR (JUMPING) 15
AAAAH!
 (then)
Already? *That* was fast.

Olive and Ari approach.

*

16 OLIVE 16
 (to Twins)
 How did you find us all so quickly?

*

*

17 ARI 17
 Especially me! I thought my hiding
 spot was pretty good.

18 MARY 18
 Well, us goats have *great*
 eyesight...

*

19 LIV 19
19 That means we see *really well*.

19

19

Behind the goats, Tito peeks out from behind a tree.

20 MARY 20
 And that's why we're so good at...

21 LIV 21
 Hide and Seek!
 (then, calling)
 Tito! Come out from behind that
 tree!

Tito comes out from behind the tree.

22 MARY 22
 Koa! I see you behind Ms. Mole!

*

ON MS. MOLE: Koa steps out from behind her, startling her.

*

Mary and Liv <LAUGH PLAYFULLY> and bound off, in search of
other students.

23 ARI 23
 Mary and Liv are way too good at
 Hide-and-Seek, we don't stand a
 chance!

*

24 LIV (O.S.) 24
 Found you too, Sally!

Elinor and her friends look over to see Liv and Mary next to
the sandbox. Sally rises slowly up from behind it, peeking
over as before.

*

25 ELINOR 25
 We need to figure out how to make
 ourselves harder to find!

26	OLIVE	26	*
	We'd better figure it out quickly.		
	Mary and Liv have found everyone		*
	but-		

27 MARY / LIV (O.S.) 27
Found you, Camilla!

Camilla reveals herself from behind the school, arms on hips in disbelief at being found.

28 ARI 28

Now they've found everyone! That
must be a new Hide-and-Seek record!

The goats bound back to Elinor and her friends.

29 ELINOR (TO TWINS) 29
You two are *great* at this game!

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30          ARI                                30  *
          Let's play again!                      *
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31 MARY 31
Sure! We're happy to keep
counting...

32 LIV 32
If you want to keep hiding!

The twins cover their heads and count as the kids run off.

MARY	LIV (CONT'D)
One... Three... etc.	...Two ...Four etc.

6. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - SHALLOW STREAM - CONTINUOUS

Everyone scatters to hide. At the SHALLOW STREAM, Elinor jumps *
behind a LARGE GREY ROCK, Ari hides in some WHITE LOTUS
BLOSSOMS, and Olive behind a GREEN AND BROWN TREE. All three *
of them stick out obviously.

Elinor peeks from behind her rock. After a beat, she sees TWO *
LEAVES AND A KATYDID (which looks like the leaves) on top.
The katydid shifts a bit and catches Elinor's attention.

33 ELINOR 33

Huh?

Meanwhile, Olive peeks out from behind her tree. Next to her, *
a BROWN PILE OF TWIGS seems to shift, catching her eye. *

34 OLIVE 34 *
Woah! What was that? *

On the lotus blossoms, a <CHIRPING> can be heard. Ari pokes his head up and looks around, searching for the sound.

35 ARI 35 *
Huh? Who's there? *

Elinor leans in to take a closer look at the katydid when:

36 MARY / LIV (O.S.) 36
Ready or not here we come!

Elinor ducks behind her rock as Mary and Liv bound into frame. They spot the friends quickly.

37 LIV 37
Elinor, you're behind the grey rock.

38 ELINOR 38 *
Aww... *

39 MARY 39
Ari, we see you in those flowers.

40 ARI 40 *
What? But how? *

41 LIV 41 *
Olive, you're hiding behind that tree! *

42 OLIVE 42 *
Impossible! *

The friends come out of their hiding spots, astounded.

43 ELINOR 43
How did you find us? *

44 LIV 44 *
It was easy to see your white ears behind that grey rock, Elinor. *

Elinor looks up at her ears and drops them to her side.

45 MARY 45
You too, Olive. We can see you really well behind that brown tree... *

46 LIV 46 *

And it was easy to see you in those
white flowers, Ari.

47 ARI 47

How do you keep finding me? My
hiding spots are *amazing*!
(then, unsure)
Aren't they?

The goats <GIGGLE> and bound off. Olive <SIGHS> and rests her
head in her hand on the rock, thinking.

48 OLIVE 48 *

I thought our hiding spots were
much better this time, but Mary and
Liv still found us right away.
(then)
There must be *something* we can do
to hide *better*.

As Olive speaks, the katydid takes two quick hops along the
rock, getting Elinor's attention. Elinor is shocked.

49 ELINOR 49 *

Whoa! Did you see that?

50 OLIVE 50 *

Did that leaf just... hop?

51 ARI 51

I've never seen a leaf hop before.

The katydid moves again, surprising the kids!

52 ELINOR 52

That is so interesting! We need
more observations!

The friends lean in to examine. SCIENCE MOMENT CU: The
katydid looks very similar to the other two leaves. It takes
a couple more hops along the rock.

53 ELINOR (CONT'D) 53 *

Amazing! When you look even closer,
you can see it has antennae and
legs. It's not a leaf at all.

The katydid hops again, landing beside another LEAF.

54 ARI 54 *

It's an insect! Look, its body is
the same shape and color as the
leaf!

The kids look back and forth from katydid to leaf in awe.

55 OLIVE 55 *
 Unbe-leaf-able! *

The katydid takes a few steps and wiggles its antennae.

56 ARI / ELINOR / OLIVE 56 *
 Cool! / Woah! / Awesome!

57 ELINOR 57
 (to katydid)
 We almost didn't see you there,
 little friend!

58 OLIVE 58 *
 I've read about this in my nature
 book. Some animals hide by looking *
 like the things around them. It's
 called "camouflage."

59 ARI 59
 Hmmm... I wonder if anything else
 around here is camouflaged?

60 OLIVE (REALIZING) 60 *
 While I was hiding, I think I saw
 something move in a pile of sticks,
 but I'm not sure.

61 ELINOR 61
 There's only one way to find out!
 Let's go! *

The kids run over to the pile of sticks. As they look at it,
the pile seems to shift again.

62 OLIVE 62 *
 Hmm. First hopping leaves and now
 moving twigs?

Olive looks even closer and... nothing happens. She starts to *
look away when something in the pile shifts again.

63 OLIVE (CONT'D) 63 *
 Ok, that time I *know* I saw
 something move.

She extends her trunk and sniffs the pile when a BROWN TOAD *
hops out of it and startles Olive and her friends!

64 OLIVE (CONT'D) 64 *
 <TRUMPET>!

As Ari looks LEFT, UP, then RIGHT, the bird flies from one twig to another, always one step ahead of him. (ie, when Ari looks LEFT, the bird is UP. When the bird flies RIGHT, he looks UP etc.). The bird <CHIRPS> at each branch.

75 ARI (CONT'D) 75
Is it the tree that's chirping?

On the ground, Olive and Elinor share a <GIGGLE>. *

Ari is looking directly at the bird, but he doesn't notice.
The bird <CHIRPS> and flutters and he finally sees it.

76 ARI (CONT'D) 76
Oh, there you are! Have you been
hiding here this whole time?

The bird <CHIRPS> happily and flies onto his head. Ari floats down to the ground to rejoin his friends.

77 ELINOR (TO BIRD) 77
Look at your beautiful brown and
grey feathers. They're the same
colors as the tree.

78 OLIVE 78 *

It's a perfect match. We couldn't
see him *at all* from down here.

79 ARI (POINTING UP) 79
I couldn't even see him from up
there!

The bird, still on his head, <CHIRPS> in agreement.

80 ELINOR 80
Cool! Nature is so good at hiding. *

The kids run back to the katydid and the leaves. *

81 ELINOR (CONT'D) 81
The katydid was hidden because it
had the same *shape* and *color* as the
leaves it was next to.

They run over to the toad and the twigs and compare them. *

82	OLIVE	82	*
	And I didn't see that tricky toad		
	because the spots and colors on his		*
	skin look just like twigs he was		*
	sitting on.		

Ari flies up and drops his friend among the tree branches. *

83 ARI 83
 (pointing at bird on head)
 And my little buddy up here looks
 just like...
 (pointing at canopy) *
 ...this tree up here. I didn't see *
 him at all!

Ari flies back down as Mary and Liv run in. *

84 MARY 84 *
 We've found everyone! *

85 LIV 85 *
 Want to play another round? *

86 ELINOR 86 *
 Yup! We'll be right there! *

The twins run off. *

87 ELINOR (CONT'D) 87 *
 I have an idea of how we can hide *
 better from Mary and Liv! *

Ari and Olive listen eagerly. *

88 ELINOR (CONT'D) 88
 If we hide *near* things that we look
 like, we can camouflage too!

89 ARI / OLIVE 89 *
 Awesome! / Great idea!

Music starts as Elinor and her friends search for hiding spots where they might be able to camouflage themselves.

90 ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE 90 *
 Hide and Seek, Hide and Seek
 Count to ten and don't you peek!
 Nature shows me how to hide,
 Use my color, shape or size.

Elinor compares herself unsuccessfully to a bush and keeps searching for a hiding spot.

91 ELINOR 91 *
 My two ears are long and white, *
 How can I hide them from sight? *

Ari looks around for somewhere he could hide.

92	ARI	92	
	My fur is brown, my shirt is green		
	Where can I hide and not be seen?		*
	Olive compares herself unsuccessfully to a rocking toy and keeps looking.		*
93	OLIVE	93	*
	My skin is grey, where can I hide,		*
	What makes my color hard to find?		*
	The kids continue to search for hiding spots.		
94	ELINOR / ARI / OLIVE	94	*
	Hide and Hide, Hide and Seek		
	Count to ten and don't you peek!		
	A hiding spot that looks like me,		
	Will make me really hard to see!		
	Collectively, they see some hiding spots off-screen, unseen to the audience. They share a look; they know what to do!		
95	ELINOR	95	*
	Those spots are perfect!		*
96	OLIVE	96	*
	Yeah! There's no way Mary and Liv		*
	will find us there.		*
97	ARI	97	*
	Do I have to say this every time?		*
	Less talking, more hiding... c'mon!		*
	WIPE TO:		*

7. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - NEAR SCHOOL - LATER

Same as the opening scene, PAN across the schoolyard as the kids, including Olive, Ari, and Elinor run off to hide.

1...3...5...7... 9... MARY 2...4...6...8...10! LIV *

98 MARY / LIV 98
Ready or not, here we come!

The goats run off, searching for their friends.

8. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - CONTINUOUS *

They find Sally standing on Camilla's back, behind a TREE. *

The goat twins run past the shallow stream from SC6. Elinor is hiding in the lotus blossoms, her ears blending in with the pedals. Ari hides in the brown and orange tree, and Olive hides behind the large grey rock. The friends should be well camouflaged from both the twins and the audience.

*
*
*
*
*

The twins find Tito behind A HOLLOW LOG, and Koa *in* it. The twins look around, searching. They look at each other confused, shrug, and run off.

*

9. EXT. SCHOOL YARD - SHALLOW STREAM - CONTINUOUS

*

The twins walk near where Elinor is hiding. Once past, Elinor wiggles her ears. The twins look close to where Olive is hiding. They move on and Olive peeks out and stifles a <GIGGLE>. They search around Ari's tree, but don't see him. They leave and Ari pokes out.

*
*
*
*
*

99 MARY 99

I can't see Elinor, Ari, or Olive anywhere... where are they?

*

100 LIV 100

I don't know! We've usually found them by now. They're hiding *much better* this time.

101 MARY 101

Do you think we should split up to look?

They stare at one another for a beat.

102 MARY / LIV 102

No way! / We're never splitting up!

The bound off together hand-in-hand, <GIGGLING>.

103 ELINOR (STAGE WHISPER) 103

It's working! They can't see us.

104 ARI (STAGE WHISPER) 104

Shhh! Flowers can't talk!

105 OLIVE (STAGE WHISPER) 105

Neither can trees!

*

Ari catches himself and covers his mouth his hands. Elinor stifles a <GIGGLE>. The goats bound back in, near Ari's tree.

106 MARY 106

We've looked everywhere!

107 LIV 107
And they're nowhere!

108 MARY 108
If we can't find them...

109 LIV 109
Then *no-one* can.

They look at each other for a beat.

110 MARY 110
COME OUT, COME OUT, WHERE EVER YOU
ARE!

111 LIV 111
OLLY-OLLY-OXEN-FREE!

Elinor and her friends jump out of their hiding spots,
startling the goats! A few classmates run in to watch.

112 MARY / LIV (SHOCKED) 112
BAAAAAAA!!!

113 ELINOR 113
Here we are! Right in front of you!

114 MARY 114
But how? We looked here!

115 LIV 115
We looked there!

116 MARY / LIV 116
We looked *everywhere*!

117 ELINOR 117
<LAUGHS> We used camouflage to hide
in plain sight!

She hops into the lotus blossoms and blends in with her ears.

118 OLIVE 118 *
By finding hiding spots that looked
like us. *

Olive tucks herself back behind the rock. *

119 ARI 119
So you couldn't see us!

He hops into the tree right next to them and disappears. The *
twins are flabbergasted!

120 MARY 120
 That...

121 LIV 121
 Is...

122 MARY / LIV 122
 AMAZING!!!

Ari, Olive, and Elinor hop proudly from their hiding spots. *

123 MARY 123
 Can we try? We want to camouflage!

124 LIV 124
 Ya, it's our turn to hide now!

125 ELINOR 125
 <GIGGLES> Of course! I'll count! *

Elinor covers her head and counts.

126 ELINOR (CONT'D) 126
 1... 2... 3... etc.

Everyone scatters to hide, leaving the goat twins behind.
They look around for a hiding spot.

127 MARY (STAGE WHISPER, TO LIV) 127
 Psst... what around here looks the
 most like twin goats?

Liv shrugs and they bound out, looking for a goat-shaped
hiding space. If possible, unseen behind them are TWO HIDING
SPOTS THAT MATCH THEIR SILHOUETTE AND COLORS. IRIS OUT on
Elinor counting. *

THE END.