

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

No Need to Shout

By Kate Barris

Elinor's Question: How can I communicate in a way that is familiar when I can't talk?

Logline: Elinor is supposed to sing a song with her friends but she's lost her voice.

Curriculum Goals:

- SEP 1 - Ask and/or identify cause and effect questions that can be answered by an investigation
- SEP 4d - Talk about and reflect on what happened during an investigation or when solving a problem and why it might have happened (Elinor and her friends observe how other animals communicate without words and determine how they could use those strategies)

(LS8) Begin to understand that there are many different kinds of living things and how they may be the same or different: a. Observe and describe similarities and differences across different types of plants and animals. Elinor and her friends observe there are many different ways to communicate.

- (ND2). (RTL Crosscutting concept 'Systems'): Begin to understand that systems developed in our world often work in similar ways to systems found in the natural world. Elinor realizes that, just like in the natural world, she and her friends express themselves through actions and expressions, not just sounds/talking.

MAIN CHARACTERS: Olive, Ari, Elinor, Mr. Dog

SECONDARY: Ms. Mole, Ari's Mother

LINE COUNT - 112

FIRST DRAFT: FEB 15, 2019

SECOND DRAFT MAR 8th, 2019

ESTABLISHING SHOT: The forest near Elinor's house.

4

ARI/OLIVE/ ELINOR

4

(singing)

Ari/Olive - If you feel...

Elinor (gleefully shouted) **Glad!** *

Ari/Olive - Let me know you're **glad**

All - And we'll be **glad** together!

Ari/Olive - If you feel..

Elinor(shouted, pleasantly) **Sad!** *

Ari/Olive - Let me know you're **sad**.

All: And I'll try to make it

better.

Ari/Olive - If you feel..

Elinor (shouted) **Silly!** *

Ari/Olive - Let me know you're

silly. *

All - And we'll laugh and giggle

together. *

Olive - So always let your **feelings**

out

Ari - **Smile** or **frown** or **giggle** and

shout *

Elinor - 'Cause I can be a friend

for real

All - If I know just how you feel!

If I know just how you feeeeeeeel!

The three of them look very pleased.

5	OLIVE	5	
	Wow! Ms. Mole's going to love our song!		
6	ARI	6	*
	Yeah! I can't wait to sing it to the whole class tomorrow.		
	They get to a fork in the path.		*
7	ELINOR	7	
	I want it to be perfect, so I'm going to practice and practice and practice!		
8	OLIVE	8	*
	Don't forget what Ms. Mole said: If you practice too much, you might lose your voice!		*
9	ARI	9	*
	Ha! And then we'd have to run all over looking for it. Here voicey voicey voicey!		*
10	ELINOR	10	*
	I'm just so excited, I can't stop! See you tomorrow!		*
11	ARI/OLIVE	11	*
	Bye Elinor!		*
	Elinor goes one way and Ari and Olive go the other, waving as they head home.		*
	As Elinor walks, she sings loudly .		
12	ELINOR	12	
	(singing)		
	<i>If you feel glad</i>		
	<i>Let me know you're glad</i>		
	<i>And we'll be glad together...</i>		

2. INT. ELINOR'S HOUSE - MONTAGE

We see Elinor in a series of snippets, singing **very loudly**.

1. Elinor at the dinner table, her parents amused; 2. Elinor at her desk colouring; 3. Elinor in the bathtub surrounded by bubbles; 4. Elinor brushing her teeth (so song is garbled); 5. Elinor poking her head through her pyjama top; 6. *

Sitting in bed, flipping through a book; 7. Elinor lying in bed at night facing one way; 8. Elinor lying in bed facing the other way.

*
*

13 ELINOR 13

(singing **loudly**)
If you feel **sad...**
Let me know you're **sad...**
And I'll try to make it **better!**
If you feel **silly...**
Let me know you're **silly**
And we'll laugh and giggle
together!
So always let your **feelings** out
Just **smile** or **frown** or **giggle** and
shout
'Cause I can be a **friend** for **real**
If I know just how you **feel!**
If I know just how you **feel!**

*
*
*
*
*

Just before Elinor reaches the end of the song, we CUT to a WIDE SHOT of the house at NIGHT, as the last light goes out and her SINGING FADES.

*
*
*

Then, there's the first pink of sunrise and it's morning.

*

3. EXT. OUTSIDE ELINOR'S HOUSE - MORNING

Olive and Ari are at the path to Elinor's house.

*

14 ARI 14

Race ya to the door!

*
*

They both run up to the door, and get to the door, knocking at the same time. After a beat, the door opens and Elinor comes out.

*
*
*

15 ARI (CONT'D) 15

Hi Elinor! Are you ready to sing
our song in class today?

*
*
*

16 ELINOR 16

(croaks)

*

17 OLIVE 17

What's wrong with your voice?

18 ARI 18

Do you have a cold?

Elinor shakes her head "no".

*
*

19	OLIVE	19	
	Then why does your voice sound so scratchy?		*
	Elinor shrugs.		*
20	ARI	20	*
	Wait a second. Did you practice our song all night?		*
	Elinor shrugs and then nods, slightly apologetically. Olive suddenly realizes what's happened.		*
21	OLIVE	21	*
	Ah! You practiced so much you lost your voice - like Ms. Mole said.		*
	Elinor shrugs and nods again, a bit more apologetically.		*
22	ARI	22	
	What about our song? We promised Ms. Mole.		
	Elinor, Ari and Olive look concerned.		
23	OLIVE	23	*
	We can't sing the song without you. We made it up to sing together .		*
24	ARI	24	*
	Right! If you don't sing, we don't sing.		
25	ELINOR	25	*
	(hardly any voice) Sorry.		
	Olive and Ari don't want her to feel bad.		*
26	ARI	26	*
	If you lost your voice from all that practicing, maybe you just need to give it a rest.		*
27	OLIVE	27	*
	Yeah. Maybe if you don't talk for a while, it'll be okay by the time we get to school.		*
	Ari looks at his watch and reacts.		*
28	ARI	28	*
	Whoa! We don't have a lot of time. Let's go.		*

4. EXT. MR. DOG'S FRONT YARD - A LITTLE LATER

As they skip along together, they meet up with MR. DOG, who is fixing his fence outside his house.

29 ARI 29
Look! There's Mr. Dog!

30 OLIVE 30
Good morning, Mr. Dog!

They group around him, with Olive on one side, Elinor on the other side and Ari nearer his rear end.

31 MR. DOG 31
Good morning, kids! How nice to
see you!

ANGLE ON: Mr. Dog's tail is wagging so vigorously that he keeps hitting Ari with it (Mr. Dog doesn't realize it).

32 ARI 32
 (giggles) Mr. Dog! Your tail is
 tickling me!

Mr. Dog looks at his back end and chuckles.

33 MR. DOG 33

Oops! (chuckle) Sorry Ari! I can't help it! Wagging our tail is the way we dogs show we're happy to see you!

*
*

34 OLIVE 34
We're happy to see you too! *

35	ARI	35	*
	Yeah, except we don't wag our		*
	tails, right?		*

36	Right!	OLIVE	36	*
				*

Elinor smiles and nods. Mr. Dog reacts with curiosity.

37 MR. DOG 37
You're awfully quiet today Elinor. *

Elinor tries but nothing comes out, so Olive helps out.

38 OLIVE 38

We made up a new song and Elinor
practiced so much last night, her *
voice got tired. *

39	ARI	39	*
	Yeah, and we're supposed to sing it for the whole class, but we can't unless Elinor gets her voice back.		*
	Mr. Dog's ears droop and his tail stops wagging as he turns to Elinor.		*
40	MR. DOG	40	*
	Elinor! After all that practicing, you must be disappointed you can't sing your song.		*
	As Elinor nods sadly, Olive notices Mr. Dog's ears droop and Ari notices Mr. Dog's tail has stopped hitting him.		*
41	ARI	41	*
	Hey. Your tail stopped wagging and tickling me.		*
	Olive points to Mr. Dog's ears.		
42	OLIVE	42	*
	And your ears went down too. Is that because you're sad for Elinor?		*
	Mr. Dog raises and lowers his ears and the kids watch in fascination.		
43	MR. DOG	43	*
	My ears do show how I'm feeling. But I don't feel sad for Elinor. I just understand how she feels.		*
44	OLIVE	44	*
	And we understand how you feel! Because of your tail and your ears, even when you don't say anything, everyone knows how you're feeling.		*
	Mr. Dog's tail wags.		
45	MR. DOG	45	*
	That's the way we dogs communicate, Olive!		*
46	OLIVE	46	*
	As Elinor would say, That's soooo interesting!		*
	They all respond with smiles.		*

47 MR. DOG 47 *

Well, I'd better get back to fixing
this fence. I hope you all get to
perform your song - one way or
another! *

Elinor smiles and waves to Mr. Dog.

48 ARI/OLIVE 48

Bye Mr. Dog!/Thanks!

As they start to head off, Elinor pauses, clearly thinking.

5. EXT. CLOSER TO SCHOOL - A LITTLE LATER

Elinor, Olive and Ari are almost at school when they hear...

49 ARI'S MOM (O.S.) 49

Ari! Ari! You forgot your lunch!

They turn and see ARI'S MOM catching up to them, with his
lunchbox. In her other arm she's got Ari's baby sister MIRI. *

Ari puts his palm to his forehead, in an "Oh man!" Gesture. *

50 ARI 50

Whoa! I forgot my lunch? How does
that even happen?

51 ARI'S MOM 51 *

You were so excited about singing
your song. Are you two as excited
about the song as Ari is?

Ari, Olive and Elinor look slightly disappointed and Ari's
Mom reacts. *

52 OLIVE 52 *

We may not be able to sing our song
today. Elinor lost her voice. *

Elinor shrugs sadly, and Ari's mom looks concerned. *

53 ARI 53

She's giving her voice a rest. We
hope maybe she'll get it back
before the end of the day. *

Ari's Mom gives Elinor a reassuring look. *

54 ARI'S MOM 54

That's a good plan, Elinor.

Just then Ari's little sister starts fussing, <GURGLING> and waving her hands up and down. Olive reacts.

55 OLIVE 55
Oh! What's wrong with baby Miri? *

Ari smiles and waves his arms the same way she just did.

56 ARI 56
She's just hungry. She always goes like this when she's hungry. Don't you, Little Sis! (He gurgles just like her)

The baby <SFX: BABY GIGGLES> Then the baby starts rubbing her eyes.

57 ARI (CONT'D) 57
And when she rubs her eyes, it means she's tired, right Mom?

58 ARI'S MOM 58
That's right. I'd better get her home for her snack and a nap! I hope Elinor's voice gets better in time to sing your song! Bye! *

Ari's Mom gives Ari a kiss on the head and then hurries off. Olive turns to Ari.

59 OLIVE 59
Wow! You sure know a lot about babies, Ari.

60 ARI 60
I just know a lot about my baby sister. I can tell what she wants, even though she can't talk yet.

61 OLIVE 61
The same way we could tell how Mr. Dog felt because of his wagging tail and his drooping ears. *

As Elinor is taking in the conversation between Ari and Olive, we can see from her expression that she's got an idea. She starts tugging Olive's arm. *

62 OLIVE (CONT'D) 62
What is it Elinor? Did you get your voice back?

Elinor shakes her head no, then points to her temple.

63	ARI	63
	Do you have a headache?	

She shakes her head no again. Then she holds one finger up, in a kind of "aha!" gesture and has a big smile.

64 ARI (CONT'D) 64
Your finger hurts?

Elinor shakes her head, points to her temple then draws a circle above her head, kind of like a thought bubble.

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65              OLIVE                      65  
    You have an idea??
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Elinor nods her head vigorously.

66 ARI 66
All right! What's your idea?

Elinor points to them, then acts like she's singing.

67 ARI (CONT'D) 67
What's she doing?

Elinor tries again, this time doing some of the hand gestures that they did earlier when they sang the song.

68 OLIVE 68
Oh! You want us to sing our song?

Elinor nods vigorously.

69 ARI 69
But we already said we don't want
to sing the song without you.

Elinor points two fingers at Ari and Olive's eyes then to herself.

70 OLIVE 70
You want us to look at you?

Elinor nods then smiles a great big smile, and points at her smiling mouth.

71 OLIVE (CONT'D) 71
You're happy?

Elinor nods, then makes a sad face and points at her mouth.

[illegible]

Olive suddenly starts to smile.

73 OLIVE 73
I do! We can tell how Elinor is
feeling by the look on her face.

Ari still isn't getting it.

74 ... Okay? ARI 74

Elinor smiles mischievously and wags her butt. Olive gets it right away but Ari is still puzzled.

75 OLIVE 75
Ah! Just like we could tell Mr. Dog
was happy when he wagged his tail!

Elinor smiles and nods, and then gestures as if she's holding
cradling a baby, then rubs her eyes the way Ari's sister did
earlier. Ari's face lights up.

76 ARI 76

And the way (Ari's sister) let us
know she was tired by rubbing her
eyes.

*
*

77 OLIVE 77
Exactly! That's soooo interesting!
Come on!

Elinor jumps up and down happily - she knows Olive is on the same track as she is.

78 ARI 78
Okay, what's so interesting? And
where are we going?

Olive ushers them toward the school.

79 OLIVE 79
To school! Elinor's figured out a
way to sing our song even if she
doesn't have her voice! I'll
explain on the way!

6. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

ON MS. MOLE: Who looks a little surprised as Elinor, Ari and Olive rush up to her.

80 ARI/OLIVE 80
Ms. Mole! Ms. Mole!

81 MS. MOLE 81
Oh! Good morning, my fine singing
students! Are you all ready to sing
your new Feelings Song for the
class?

The kids excitedly tell their story.

82 ARI 82
Well, we thought we weren't going
to be able to sing our song!

83 OLIVE 83
Because Elinor practiced so much
that she lost her voice.

Elinor nods and gestures that she can't talk.

84 ARI 84
And we didn't want to sing The
Feelings Song without Elinor!

*

Ms. Mole nods, understanding.

85 OLIVE 85
But then we made some observations!

86 MS. MOLE 86
You did? Good for you! What did you
observe?

Elinor repeats her wagging tail motion, imitating Mr. Dog.
Ms. Mole looks confused.

87 MS. MOLE (CONT'D) 87
Um ... I'm not sure I understand.

88 OLIVE 88
We observed that when Mr. Dog
wagged his tail, that meant he was
happy.

*
*
*

All three wag their butts and Ms. Mole <chuckles>.

89 OLIVE (CONT'D) 89
So even if he didn't talk to us, we
could tell how he felt.

*

90 ARI 90
Yeah, and then we observed my
little sister and I knew she was
hungry because when she's hungry,
she always does *this*...

The three of them wave their arms and Ms. Mole laughs.

91 ARI (CONT'D) 91 *

 So we knew how **she** felt. *

So we knew how **she** felt.

92 OLIVE 92
And that gave Elinor ...

And that gave Elinor ...

All three of them point to their temple.

93 ARI/OLIVE 93

An idea!

An idea!

94 ARI 94

Even if you can't use your voice,
there are ways to show your friends
how you feel, or what you're
thinking.

*
*
*

Even if you can't use your voice,
there are ways to show your friends
how you feel, or what you're
thinking.

there are ways to show your

how you feel, or what you're

thinking.

95	OLIVE	95
	Yeah! By the way your face looks or your body moves. So Elinor helped us realize we can sing our song...	* *

Yeah! By the way your face looks or
your body moves. So Elinor helped
us realize we *can* sing our song...

your body moves. So Elinor helped

us realize we *can* sing our song...

ARI/OLIVE

With Elinor!

With Elinor!

Elinor smiles and points to her smiling face!

7. INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Elinor, Ari and Olive in front of the class with Ms. Mole.

97 MS. MOLE 97
And now, Ari, Olive and Elinor are
going to present The Feelings Song! *

And now, Ari, Olive and Elinor are going to present The Feelings Song!

going to present The Feelings Song!

98 OLIVE 98

Ari and I are going to sing, but
Elinor's going to *show* the feelings *
instead of singing them.

Ari and I are going to sing, but Elinor's going to *show* the feelings instead of singing them.

Elinor's going to *show* the feelings

instead of singing them.

99 ARI 99
Yeah and if you can tell what she's
feeling, you can join in! *

Yeah and if you can tell what she's feeling, you can join in!

feeling, you can join in!

Elinor conducts as she did earlier. NOTE ON THE SONG: Would be great to have other kids voices shout the emotions (glad, sad, silly) depending on the pairing of this Ep. *

be great to have other kids voices shout the emotions (glad, sad, silly) depending on the pairing of this Ep.

sad, silly) depending on the pairing of this :

100	ARI/OLIVE	100	*
	(singing)		
	Ari/Olive - <i>If you feel...</i>		

(singing)

Ari/Olive - *If you feel...*

Elinor shows a big smily face.

We see the kids looking at Elinor and trying to understand her expression.

101 SALLY 101 *
She looks... happy? *

102 ARI 102 *
Right. Or glad. *

They start again, and Elinor puts on her happy face again. *

NOTE: It would be best if we get extra kid voices to shout the one shouted word. Not sure how to put this in the song. *

103 ARI/OLIVE 103 *
(singing) *
Ari/Olive - *If you feel...* *
Ari/Olive/Kids TBD (shouted) **Glad!** *
Ari/Olive (singing) *Let me know*
you're glad
And we'll be glad together!
Ari/Olive - *If you feel..*

Elinor makes a sad face.

On the kids observing Elinor's expression. *

104 MARY 104 *
Now she's sad. *

105 OLIVE 105 *
Yes! *
Ari/Olive - *If you feel...* *
Ari/Olive/Kids TBD(shouted) **Sad!** *
Ari/Olive (Singing)- *Let me know*
you're sad.
And I'll try to make it better.
If you feel..

Elinor makes a silly face. *

Ari/Olive/ Kids TBD(shouted) **Silly!** *
Ari/Olive - *Let me know you're*
silly. *
And we'll laugh and giggle
together. *

Elinor dances as Ari and Olive sing. *

Olive - So always let your feelings
out
Ari - Smile or frown or giggle and
shout
Ari/Olive - 'Cause I can be a
friend for real
If I know just how you feel!
If I know just how you feeeeeeel!

The class reacts with great <SF: APPLAUSE>

106 MS. MOLE 106
That was wonderful!

107 OLIVE 107

I think it was even better with
Elinor showing the feelings instead
of singing them.

108 ARI 108
Me too. What do you think Elinor?

Elinor tries to speak. *

109	ELINOR	109	*
	(croaky but better than earlier) I		*
	feel ...		*

Then she makes a great big smiley face and wiggles her butt
like they did earlier.

110	ARI	110	*
	You don't have to say how you feel		*
	Elinor - we can tell. You feel		*
	very...		*

111	OLIVE	111	*
Very...			*

112	ARI/OLIVE	112	*
	Happy!		*

THE END