

# The ant farm



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Kevin was no ordinary teenager. He was nothing like the other sixteen year old boys' at his school. He did not see the point in going to wild parties, getting unbelievably drunk and violently throwing up in the bins outside McDonalds. Kevin much preferred to sit up in his bedroom watching the developments in his beloved ant farm. He could sit at his desk for hours on end just watching the ants. He found them so fascinating. Apart from caring for the ant farm Kevin spent the majority of his time conducting science experiments.

He was attempting to invent a potion that would slightly increase the surface area of an ant so he could investigate the ant's physical characteristics more accurately. His potion so far had been a success, but he had only tested it out on dead objects. Kevin was unsure of the effects the potion would have on an actual living creature but was willing to take a risk. " After all" he thought, " What's the worse that could happen? " Kevin removed one ant from the ant farm and placed it inside a matchbox.

He then confidently placed a single drop of the solution onto the ant Kevin knew from his preliminary experiments that it would take fifteen minutes for the potion to have an effect on the ant " Kevin! " bawled his Mother, " Dinners ready! " Kevin rushed downstairs " I'll be back in time" he assured himself. Kevin had not realised how long he had been eating for, when he began to hear strange noises coming from upstairs. It sounded as if there was a burglary going on in his bedroom. Kevin grabbed a broom from the kitchen and headed upstairs, but then he realised.

He looked at his watch. It had been fifteen minutes since he had left the ant when he entered his bedroom he dropped the broom in shock. He could not believe his eyes. In front of him was a monstrous, hideous, ant " This isn't right" panicked Kevin, " It was only supposed to treble in size! It must be about six foot tall! " The ant turned to him waving its hideous antennas around in the air and gleamed at Kevin with its small yet intimidating eyes. As it began to step towards Kevin, he ran out the room, clumsily leaving the door open behind him.

He darted down the stairs and into the Kitchen to rummage through the cupboard. He emerged from the cupboard clutching a can of toxic insect killer. " What are you doing Kevin" moaned his mother from the hallway. There was a piercing scream. Kevin ran into the hallway to find the ant halfway down the stairs gazing at his mother malevolently with his evil compound eyes. Kevin went hysterical and began to attack the ant by spraying the insect killer directly at the ant However this just seemed to exasperate the ant and it began to lash out on Kevin.

It turned around and shot a green gas out of the end of its abdomen. The whole of downstairs filled up with this irregular substance. Kevin and his mum's skin began to sting uncomfortably. The ant then scrambled back up the stairs with its grimy, brown, flaky, scraggy legs. Kevin tried to follow the ant but found it extremely difficult because he could not see through all the thick green gas. By the time Kevin reached his room the ant was nowhere to be seen. Kevin was terribly confused but then he realised the window was wide open.

The ant was pleased to be free from the ant farm and enjoyed using its newfound strength. It roamed Bromley high street gleefully. Then out of nowhere came a red car. The car looked as if it was spiralling out of control as it swayed to and fro only just missing pedestrians nearby. People appeared more worried by the car than they were of a six-foot tall, man-eating ant. The red ford fiesta skidded around the corner and ran straight into the ant. The ant hit the floor with a loud thump and lie there as stiff as a rock.

Everyone gathered around the ant. Children even began to prod it with their feet to see if it would wake up. However, the ant appeared dead. After a while children began to kick and stomp the ant. When everyone had disappeared from around the ant the driver emerged from the car. It was Kevin's mother. The ant began to twitch slightly and Kevin's mum began to panic. The only thing she could think to do was to get back in the car and hit the ant again, but it was too late.

While Kevin's mum began to back into the car it had managed to get up and creep away into the night. Kevin and his mum had been searching for hours but there was still no sign of the ant. They had searched the whole of Bromley and were now in Petts Wood. Kevin knew from all his studies that a normal ant could cover this distance in two hours so a six-foot tall ant could easily travel this far. As Kevin and his mother passed Petts Wood station they could see a strange figure on the bridge.

Kevin's mother parked the car outside Safeway and sprinted to the top of the bridge and sure enough there was the ant. As soon as it saw them it lurched

towards them. However, Kevin swiftly, using all of his strength, thrust it off the bridge. As the ant fell onto the train tracks it let out a high pitched scream. It tried to move for a few seconds but then stopped and after a minute, due to the heat of the live wire, had melted into a brown, sticky puddle. Kevin's father arrived at home at the usual time and was surprised to come home to an empty house.

He called up the stairs impatiently and when there was no reply he stormed upstairs to try and find his wife and son. He entered Kevin's bedroom to find it empty. This was very unusual as Kevin was always in his bedroom. Then something caught his eye, the bottle of blue liquid on Kevin's desk next to the ant farm. Kevin's father could not help but feel curious and when he read the label on the bottle " Ant Potion" he assumed this is what Kevin gave the ants for nutrition. " Well" Kevin's dad thought, " I suppose Kevin won't mind if I feed the ants for a change. "