BITE BUSTER in

Fight the Bite!

Written and illustrated by Joe Sutliff
Developed by the Fairfax County Health Department
The Disease Carrying Insects Program (DCIP) was established in 2003 to monitor and control mosquitoes and West Nile virus in Fairfax County. Since then, it has expanded to include ticks and tick-borne diseases. The mission of the program is four-fold: vector and disease surveillance, vector management and control, community education and outreach activities as well as emergency preparedness.

The program’s goal is to minimize the impact of mosquito and tick-borne diseases with an integrated approach to pest management.

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MILLIONAIRE ENTOMOLOGIST LANCE LARVA IS HOME READING A BOOK WHEN...

SUDDENLY...

THE BITE BUZZER!
JEEVES!

YES, SIR?

NO TIME TO WASTE!
MEET ME IN THE BITE CAVE!
OPENING A SECRET DOOR, LANCE LEAPS INTO THE BITE PIPE, WHICH IS PLACED SO THAT THERE IS NO STANDING WATER.

THERE, HE CHANGES INTO THE HERO WHO FIGHTS THE BITE!

SIR? I'M LOCATING THE ORIGIN OF THE ALARM NOW.

BITE BUSTER!

JEEVES? HOW DID YOU GET DOWN HERE SO FAST?
TOOK THE ESCALATOR, SIR
THE ALARM CAME FROM HERE...
A QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD...

BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG!

PEOPLE ARE BEING BITTEN! PERHAPS YOU SHOULD INVESTIGATE!

WAIT! I HAVE A BETTER IDEA!

I'LL GO OVER THERE AND SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

BRILLIANT, SIR!
Outside the cave, a secret door opens...

And out comes the Bitemobile!

I've entered the coordinates into your GPS, sir!

Wait! I have an idea!

What?

Give me directions!

Good idea, sir!
FOLLOWING ALL TRAFFIC SAFETY RULES AND SPEED LIMITS, OUR HERO ARRIVES AT THE SCENE

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE HERE?

BITE BUSTER! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE!
WE'RE GETTING BITTEN LIKE CRAZY!

HMMM... AGGRESSIVE BITING DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS

BLACK AND WHITE STRIPES - THESE ARE ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITOES!

BLOCKED ROOF GUTTERS! BURIED DRAIN PIPES!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS! UP AND AT THEM!
FIRST, UNBLOCK THE GUTTERS SO THEY DRAIN!

NEXT, WE USE MOSQUITO DUNKS® IN THE DRAIN PIPES

WATER CAN COLLECT HERE! PERFECT FOR MOSQUITO BREEDING!

MOSQUITOES LAY EGGS IN WATER

ALL THEY NEED IS A QUARTER OF AN INCH
The eggs hatch into larvae.

The larvae become pupae.

Mosquitoes go from eggs to adults in about a week! Eliminate standing water to reduce your mosquito problem.

This is the work of my old enemy Madam Mosquito!

Once again my plans have been foiled by Bite Buster!
ONLY FEMALE MOSQUITOES BITE - THEY NEED THE BLOOD TO LAY EGGS!

YUCK!

GROSS!

SIR – THERE’S A NEW PROBLEM!

WHAT ?!?!?

WE’RE GETTING REPORTS OF SICK PEOPLE!

PEOPLE ARE COMPLAINING OF HEADACHES, FATIGUE AND FEVER

UGH! I FEEL TERRIBLE!

I SUGGEST YOU TRANSFORM TO YOUR ALTER EGO TO INVESTIGATE!

WAIT! I’VE GOT A BETTER IDEA! I’LL CHANGE AND GO SEE WHAT’S HAPPENING!

TERRIFIC IDEA, SIR!
BITE BUSTER changes back to his secret identity and travels to another part of town...

What seems to be the problem, sir?

I have a headache and I'm sore all over.

Do you have a fever, too?

You could say that.

Hmm... know anyone else feeling the same way?

A lot of people on our street.
IT FEELS LIKE WE HAVE THE FLU

HMMM...

HAVE YOU PEOPLE BEEN GETTING LOTS OF MOSQUITO BITES LATELY?

I FEEL HOT!

YES

WHY DO YOU ASK?

I THINK I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON! I'LL – UH, GET HELP!

I'VE HEARD OF WEST NILE VIRUS CASES IN YOUR AREA!

WHO WAS THAT?

MOMENTS LATER...

BITE BUSTER!!

YOU FOLKS SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR!
WEST NILE VIRUS IS SPREAD BY BROWN CULEX MOSQUITOES, WHICH USUALLY BITE FROM DUSK TO DAWN.

THE MOSQUITO BITES A BIRD THAT HAS THE VIRUS

If you see a dead bird, report it to your health department.
A PERSON CAN GET THE VIRUS FROM THE BITE OF AN INFECTED MOSQUITO

VERY FEW MOSQUITOES CARRY THE VIRUS, BUT YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL!

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS ARE LIKE A VERY BAD FLU IN THE SUMMER. THIS INCLUDES FEVER, HEADACHES, FATIGUE, BODY ACHES, STIFF NECK AND SOMETIMES NAUSEA

IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE WEST NILE VIRUS, GO SEE YOUR DOCTOR!

BZZZZ - THAT BITE BUSTER IS REALLY BUGGING ME!!

MADAM MOSQUITO
WHO CAN HELP ME PUT THE BITE ON BITE BUSTER?!!

MEANWHILE, A PAIR OF HIKERS IS HEADING HOME WHEN...

HEY, WHAT IS THIS BUMP ON MY HEAD?

LET ME LOOK...

OH, NO! IT'S A TICK!

EEK!!!
BITE BUSTER HEARS THE CRY...

ATICK! EEK!!

HELP! GET THIS TICK OFF ME!!

WAIT!

PANIC DOES NOT HELP! IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU STAY CALM!
TICKS FEED BY INSERTING THEIR MOUTH PARTS INTO THE SKIN

REMOVE THE TICK PROMPTLY, BUT—

DO NOT TRY TO BURN, KILL OR TEAR THE TICK OFF

USE A PAIR OF TWEEZERS TO GRASP THE TICK AS CLOSE TO THE SKIN AS POSSIBLE, THEN GENTLY PULL UP UNTIL THE TICK LETS GO

SAVE THE TICK IN A JAR OR PLASTIC BAG AND CONTACT YOUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT
A BULL'S-EYE RASH IS A SIGN OF LYME DISEASE

NOT EVERYONE GETS THE RASH, SO WATCH FOR THE OTHER SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS –

FATIGUE, ACHING JOINTS, STIFF NECK, SWOLLEN GLANDS AND HEADACHE!

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE LYME DISEASE, SEE YOUR DOCTOR

THANKS, BITE BUSTER!

GRRR... THAT BITE BUSTER IS A REAL PAIN IN THE BITE!
I MUST FIND A WAY TO BEAT HIM!

JOIN WITH ME, TICK!

TOGETHER, WE CAN CAUSE MORE TROUBLE THAN BUSTER CAN HANDLE!

I HAVE A PLAN THAT WILL LET US TAKE OVER THIS TOWN!
BACK AT MADAM M’S SECRET HIDEOUT...

YUM! WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO?

THAT’S THE BEST PART! NOTHING! JUST WAIT!!!

WHEN THE WARM WEATHER STARTS, HUMANS WON’T BE PREPARED!

THEIR YARDS WILL BE FULL OF PLANTERS, POOLS AND BIRD BATHS! ALL WITH WATER FOR MY EGGS!
AFTER BEING STUCK INSIDE ALL WINTER, PEOPLE WILL FORGET TO DRESS PROPERLY!!

THEY WON'T THINK ABOUT USING REPELLENTS

WARM, WET WEATHER WILL BE PERFECT FOR MOSQUITOES!

HA-HA– YES!! THEY'LL GO WALKING THROUGH THE WOODS AND FIELDS WEARING SHORTS! THEY WON'T CHECK FOR TICKS UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!!
BWAH-HA-HA-HA!!!
BITE BUSTER!!

FORGET IT, BB! WE'RE TOO MUCH FOR YOU TO HANDLE ALONE!

MAYBE SO, MADAM M, BUT I'M NOT ALONE!

MEET THE REPELLENT KID!!

DO I HAVE TO WEAR THIS, SIR?

YES, YOU DO! NOW GIVE YOUR SPEECH!

VERY WELL...
THIS AWESOME ARSENAL OF REPELLENTS WILL KEEP YOU BUGS AT BAY!!

WHEN APPLIED BY AN ADULT, THEY WILL STOP YOU NASTY BITERS FROM BITING!!

WE’LL ALSO REMIND EVERYONE TO WEAR LONG, LIGHT COLORED, LOOSE FITTING CLOTHING...

BZZZ!!!

BUT BEST OF ALL, WE HAVE ANOTHER TEAM MEMBER...

...DO TICK CHECKS AND MOW GRASS REGULARLY...

...AND ELIMINATE STANDING WATER!
...YOU! TOGETHER, WE CAN BEAT THE BAD GUYS!
FIGHT THE BITE!!!

RATS, BEATEN AGAIN!

RAH RAH, SIR!
WHAT MYSTERIOUS POWER DOES THIS MAN HAVE?!?!?

IS HE A GENIUS OR JUST REALLY SMART?
YOU DECIDE!

I PREDICT THAT KIDS WILL GET BITTEN LESS AFTER THEY READ THIS BOOK!

Mystery Jar!!
Can you guess what Josh keeps in his jar?

Build your own bitemobile!
Step 1: Collect 10,000 boxtops
Step Two: Glue them together!

X-Ray specs!!!

Kids! Try my new repellent! Akk!!

Not so fast, MM!
That's catsup!

Carl

BB