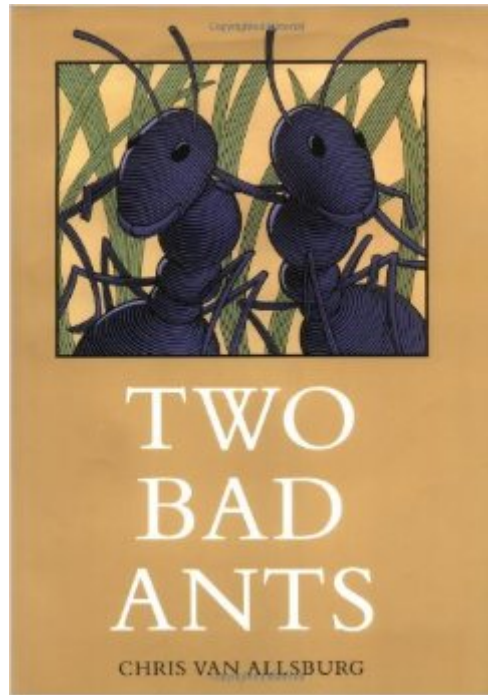


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# Two Bad Ants



## Synopsis

Note: Page 1 is the full title page, Page 2 is the copyright, Page 3 is the half title page. Page 4 is the first page of the story. The three-time Caldecott medalist tells the tale of two ants who decide to leave the safety of the others to venture into a danger-laden kitchen.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (October 24, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395486688

ISBN-13: 978-0395486689

Product Dimensions: 0.4 x 8.5 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (70 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,231 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders](#) #230 in [Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

A #1 BUGMAN favorite, Two Bad Ants allows children (and everyone else) to experience the world through an ant's point of view. Van Allsburg's phenomenal illustrations take us through a grass jungle, up a brick mountain, and into a strange world where "even the sky is gone"! We are carried through this thrilling adventure with two ants who get a little greedy and find all sorts of trouble. The result is a spellbinding ant's-eye trip through a normal kitchen that teaches the bad ants a memorable lesson. Two Bad Ants is better than a 10 - one of the best ever

"Two Bad Ants" was first published over ten years ago, but I somehow overlooked it. This gem is worth adding to your collection of children's books, and it's one that children enjoy hearing over and over again. Best of all, "Two Bad Ants" is a book that YOU won't tire of READING aloud to your kids!! What I love about this book is that Van Allsburg isn't afraid to use big words in a book for children; simplistic books are great for kids who are trying to learn to read, but they need books with more complicated vocabulary in order to increase their understanding of language. Van Allsburg

really delivers with this well-written, suspenseful, entertaining tale of two ants who discover a scary world they'd never dreamed existed: a modern kitchen, replete with electrical appliances and the inherent dangers thereof. Van Allsburg delivers the story's message simply and directly on the last page of the book: the ants learn that they belong at home and that will be happiest in their familiar surroundings. The easy life they'd envisioned could be theirs in the strange new indoor world of the house was more dangerous than they could have imagined, and wasn't worth the trouble. The drawings are simple and clean, and the color-palette is limited, which makes for fewer distractions. The artwork is really fantastic, but the vivid pictures Van Allsburg draws with his rich, descriptive complex sentences are even more satisfying. This is a book that my children and I will enjoy for years to come.

The story serves as a good example of how greed can be harmful to students. It also demonstrates how pictures may be used to help a reader understand text. For example, The author never names the crystal, but by looking at the pictures they can determine that it's sugar. The story is engaging for young readers because ants are small, non-threatening characters. Also, by using the ants to teach a lesson kids may not even realize they're learning. It is written in an attractive yet concise manner, and could be useful in teaching kids how to write text to describe pictures.

I am a teacher who works with small groups in our school. One of the things I try to do is help kids look at things from different points of view. This story is told from the point of view of the ants, which is, of course, very different from the human point of view. Some parts of the books should definitely be discussed, because it may not be obvious to children that a forest could be blades of grass or that hot brown bitter liquid could be coffee. Follow-up activities might include students drawing their own pictures from an insect's view point, or writing a story about a small creature's adventures.

I love using this book for tackling the inference standard with my fourth graders. The book is all from the point of the view of what the ants would be seeing. I love reading it to them showing them a glimpse of the illustration and having them make an inference with evidence of to where these two bad anys have ended up.

This is a hilarious book about size and the BIG WORLD, and also about the reason for following rules. Two ants start out on a journey to retrieve a blissfully, wonderful substance to feed the queen, and end up "playing hookie." Their funny antics, discovering the world of humans, lands them into

one catastrophe after another. As a read-aloud, you will have instant attention, and good for guessing what item is causing the ants to flounder. As a reading level book, it's a sure thing for grade 2, or higher grade 1. Kids will love and identify with the characters, in size and antics.

This book is so, so, so cool! We loved this book very much. We could read it over and over again. It can make a very good gift for someone who loves books. I highly recommend this book for all ages. It has very very good illustrations. This book is really really awesome! It is funny, you would think it would be boring because it is called "Two Bad Ants" but after you start to look at the cool pictures and read more about it, you will think it is really cool, too! It is about two ants who are so close to being eaten but escape. I hope you will enjoy the book. If you buy it I think you will like it a lot. -KM & SS

Love love love Chris Van Allsburg. I used this book as a whole group read aloud. The topic was writing from another point of view/perspective. After reading the book, the students loved it by the way, and giving a mini lesson on perspective and brainstorming, the students wrote their own story. Fun for all was had.

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