



My strange guinea pig

I think my guinea pig is an alien. Don't laugh. He gives me these really strange looks. Deep. Dark. We've not had him long, really not long at all. He came from this pet shop near the station. When we went to get him, the owner seemed really desperate to sell him to us, like he just couldn't wait to get him out of the shop. He kept saying, 'He's no trouble, no trouble at all!' Now I've begun to wonder. Was he frightened?

Motty (I've called him Motty) can make things move -- with his eyes. He moved a plant pot. Honestly, one minute it was in front of the cage and, the next time I came out, no sign of it! Is he gathering plant pots for something?

He's got this look. I think all his power is in his eyeballs. If he concentrates, I think he can make people change what they are going to do. Maybe, if a person was going back into the house, the eyes might fix on their back, lock on and the person might just float down the garden. 'You are going to walk over there,' the eyes say. Or, 'You are going to stand on one leg.'

If I took him into school, could he make Miss Jenkins do things like run around the classroom or laugh or scream or cry out? The thing is, has he got a plan? I think this is just the beginning. I think some other guinea pigs are waiting, in cages, for a signal. They are sending mind messages... 'LET'S DO IT NOW!'

Over to you!

In pairs

One of you is a news reporter, one of you is an unlikely animal planning on taking over the world. What are their motives?

Think of some questions the reporter might ask the animal in an interview live on telly. Now write and act out the interview!

Performance tips

- Give your voice a mysterious edge. Make us believe you really are freaked out by this guinea pig of yours.
- Stare out at the audience wide-eyed.
- Build to the last line which can be shouted or whispered powerfully.