The incredible book eating boy

Henry loves books. But not like you and I love books, no…

Not quite…Henry likes to eat books. It all began quite by mistake one afternoon when he wasn’t pay attention. He wasn’t sure at first, and tried eating a single word, just to test. Next, he tried a whole sentence and then the whole page. Yes, Henry definitely liked them. But Wednesday, he had eaten a whole book. And by the end of the month he could eat a whole book in one go. Henry loves eating all sorts of books. Story books, dictionaries, Atlases, joke books , books of facts. Even math books. And red ones were his favourite. And he was going through them at fierce rate.

But here is the best bite. The more he ate, the smarter he got. He ate a book about goldfish and then he knew what to feed Ginger.Before long he could do his father’s crossword in the newspaper, and even smarter than his teacher in school.Henry likes being smart, he thought if he kept on going, he might become the smartest person on the earth.So he kept eating books…And he kept getting smarter…and smarter…and smarter…

He went from eating books whole to eating them three or four at a time. Books about everything. Henry wasn’t fussy, and he wanted to know it all. But then things started going not quite so well. In fact, they started going very, very, very wrong. Henry was eating too many books, and too quickly at that. He was beginning to feel a little ill.

He thought, here is the worst bit. Everything he was learning was getting mixed up…he didn’t have time to digest it properly. It became quite embarrassing for him to speak. Suddenly Henry didn’t feel very smart at all. His classmates all knew the answer of questions. But he didn’t know the answer. More than one person told him he should stop eating books. So, Henry gave up eating books, and sat sadly for a long time. What was he to do? Then, after a while, and almost by accident, Henry picked up a half eaten book from the floor. But instead of putting it in his mouth. Henry opened it up, and began to read. Henry discovered he loved to read. And he thought that if he read enough he might still become the smartest person on Earth. Now Henry reads all the time, although every now and then……