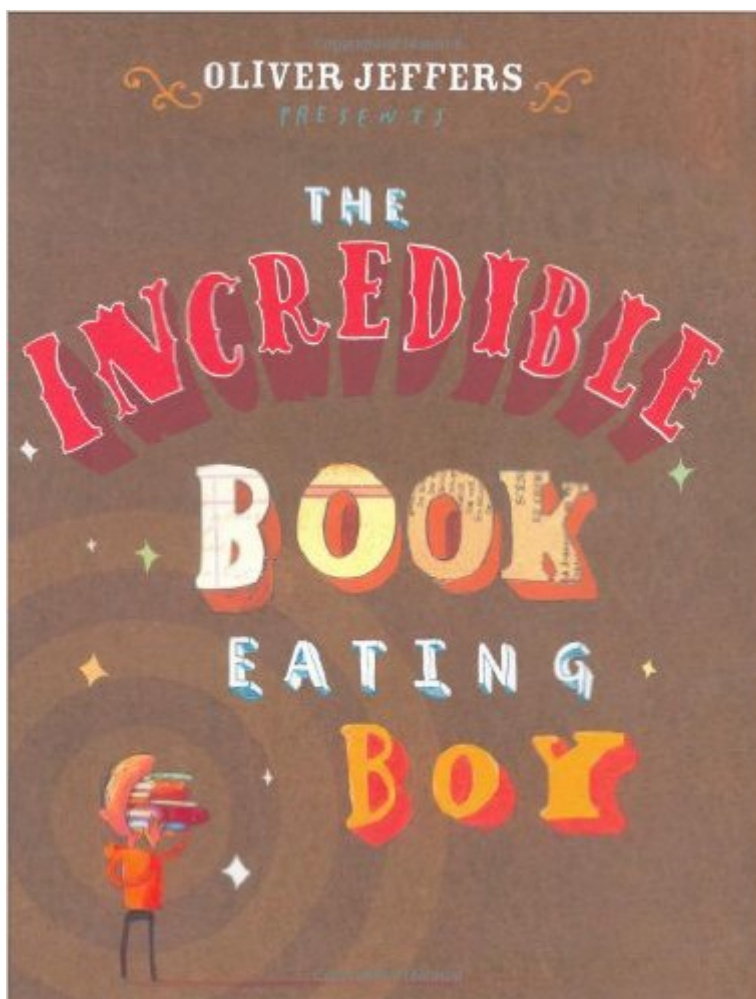


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# The Incredible Book Eating Boy



## Synopsis

Like many children, Henry loves books. But Henry doesn't like to read books, he likes to eat them. Big books, picture books, reference books . . . if it has pages, Henry chews them up and swallows (but red ones are his favorite). And the more he eats, the smarter he gets;he's on his way to being the smartest boy in the world! But one day he feels sick to his stomach. And the information is so jumbled up inside, he can't digest it! Can Henry find a way to enjoy books without using his teeth? With a stunning new artistic style and a die-cut surprise, Oliver Jeffers celebrates the joys of reading in this charming and quirky picture book. It's almost good enough to eat.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD470L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Philomel Books (April 19, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399247491

ISBN-13: 978-0399247491

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 11.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (89 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #18,594 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Education & Reference > Books & Libraries](#) #1212 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

One day while walking his cat, Henry gets a hankering for the taste of a word, a page, and eventually an entire book. Pretty soon he is eating several volumes in a single sitting, and the knowledge in the books is going straight to his brain. He dreams of being "the smartest person on Earth." And then his taste for books goes south as do his book smarts. Fortunately, he figures out another way to get smart that isn't so hard on the stomach. Unique pages and illustrations relating to books are incorporated into the "book" theme. Probably best for seven to nine year olds, and their parents.

Henry loves books. But not like other children love books. No, Henry loves to eat books. Any and all books, though red ones are his favorite. And Henry notices that the more books he eats, the smarter he gets. Unfortunately, once he begins to eat many books in one sitting, the information gets all jumbled up and he doesn't know anything. Besides, it gives him a stomach ache and excessive library fines. Can Henry enjoy books in any other way? This lively story is made by its unique illustrations. There is a chomp taken out of the back cover, for Pete's sake! One could pour over them for hours and still find something new, I'm sure. On the flip side, there is a busyness to them, due to the background of every illustration being a book page, that can hamper the read on the first go through. This isn't a problem on successive reads, once the reader knows what to read, but may put some readers off in the bookstore. I encourage readers to give it a second try because the book is too fun to pass over. The text is also fun, don't get me wrong. And I love that it makes books fun, intelligence inducing and "cool." Armchair Interviews says: This is a great book for any child's library.

This is such a charming book! As so many reviewers have mentioned, the visual details are amazing. Yes, the story is simple, and I think that allows us to enjoy all the extras Jeffers gives us on every page. The plot is predictable to adults, but my son was quite engaged and even a bit worried when we read "This is the worst bit." My 4-year-old loves it and my 2-year-old repeated "monumental" multiple times while we were reading it for the first time. I really enjoyed finding a book with an obvious message, agenda even, that doesn't overdo it.

Oh wow! The elementary teacher in me just jumps for joy at this book! What an utter delight of story-telling and children's book-making at its most hilarious best! Not only is there a great blatant message in the importance of education, but the story is told in a surprisingly nonchalant way in comparison to the over-the-top gorgeous illustrations that use its character as only a detail in wild book-related images. The narrative happily trots along, not rushing, not stretching, just telling the story as entertainingly as possible in an awesome layout. Awesome story, incredibly made book. Almost good enough to eat.

I purchased this book to read aloud to my daughter's first grade class. I'd never read it before but saw it on a recommended "read aloud" list. It is perfection, particularly the illustrations and fonts. The kids loved it, and I enjoyed reading it. What a delightful story about the joy of books!

My son loves this book. The story line focus is on books, with a good story line, and great funny

pictures! Story not too long, but not too short either. I liked it so much for my son that I even ordered the Spanish version. I also love how they have the bottom corner of the book chewed up for imagination purpose of the child.

A fun book and play on words about a boy who devours (literally) all the books he comes across. This is an imaginative and creative book that can get kids thinking about books and knowledge and what it (figuratively) means to devour a book.

What an amazing book to end or begin a school year. Great book to couple with Patricia Polacco's The Honey Tree. This book is terrific for think aloud comprehension strategies. The students love the irreverence the book (cat puking) and making predictions and inferences as we go along. Students are delighted by the bite taken out of the book at the end! The art keeps students wondering and looking. What a creative and well written book.

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