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Opening extract from
The Genius Aged 8 1/4

Written by
Jeremy Strong

Illustrated by
Jamie Smith

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This book is super readable for young readers beginning their independent reading journey.

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Chapter 1

What's in a name?

Mrs Poppleton was looking very bulgy around the tummy area.

“Have you been eating too many Jaffa Cakes?” Mr Poppleton asked.

But Mrs Poppleton said no, she hadn't.



“Have you been eating too many chocolate buttons?” Mr Poppleton asked.

But Mrs Poppleton hadn't.

Mr Poppleton stared at his wife's very bulgy tummy.

“You must have eaten SOMETHING,” he told her. “Have you swallowed a cow?”

“No.”

“An elephant?” he asked.

“NO!”

“How about a tractor? A house? A mountain?” he demanded. “A continent? Africa! Have you eaten Africa?”

“I don’t think so,” said Mrs Poppleton. “I suppose I could have eaten something in my sleep.”



Mr Poppleton's eyes lit up. "Of course! That's it! I bet you ate Africa while you were asleep and didn't notice."

Mrs Poppleton pulled a face. "Oooh! Whatever it is, it just moved. It kicked me."

"Ah!" Mr Poppleton cried. "I know what it is! You must have eaten a footballer."