

Hutton Rudby Primary School Staff

Desert Island books



Miss Martin

'These are my favourite books and the reasons why I love them so much!'

Book	Blurb	The reasons I love this book!
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll	On an ordinary summer's afternoon, Alice tumbles down a hole and an extraordinary adventure begins. In a strange world with even stranger characters, she meets a rabbit with a pocket watch, and a grinning cat, joins a mad tea-party and plays croquet with the fearsome Queen of Hearts! Lost in this weird and wonderful fantasy land, Alice begins to wonder exactly how she'll ever find her way home	I love this book as it is magical and tells of a complete fantasy world so different to our own. This book is packed with strange characters and unexpected twists and turns.
Stickman by Julia Donaldson	Stick Man lives with his lady love and three stick children in the family tree. One day he's out for a jog and gets snatched by a dog, taken by a girl, found by a swan, and the adventures continue. What Stick Man really wants is to make it back home, but will he?	I feel like this book is very underrated compared to this authors other books but it is a wonderful heart-warming book. I first heard this story being read by an exceptional class teacher when I was training to be a teacher myself. Watching the children's eyes light up more with every page made me realise how important it is to share amazing stories with children. His rendition of the story is still my favourite telling of this story, which is lucky for us at Hutton Rudby because we are lucky enough to now call that exceptional class teacher our Head Teacher!
Charlie And the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl	A young boy wins a tour through the most magnificent chocolate factory in the world, led by the world's most unusual candy maker. When Willy Wonka decides to let five children into his chocolate factory, he decides to release five golden tickets in five separate chocolate bars, causing complete mayhem.	A fabulous story with great characters. It is one of those books where you wish you could be transported into the story and explore the chocolate factory yourself! However, the real reason I really love this book is it is the first book I remember sharing with my Mum as a child. For me this book is all about snuggling in bed and the warm feeling you get when you share a book with someone you love. From experience all adults who truly love reading have a happy reading memory from childhood or a special book like this
The Wreck of the Zanzibar by Michael Morpurgo	"We all knew what was going to happen. We'd seen it before. A ship about to founder staggers before she falls. A huge wave broke over her stern and she did not come upright again." Life on the Scilly Isles in 1907 is bleak and full of hardship. Laura's twin brother, Billy, disappears, and then a storm devastates everything. It seems there's little hope. But then the Zanzibar is wrecked on the island's rocks, and everything changes	This book is written as journal entries and I really like the idea that you are delving into someone's personal story or journey. I love history and therefore the historical narrative in this book really appeals to me. You really get sucked in by the story and it's a book I struggled to put down once I started it.
The Lion Who Wanted to Love/Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae	Gerald the giraffe longs to dance, but his legs are too skinny and his neck is too long. His knees buckle whenever he tries to twirl. At the Jungle Dance, the warthogs waltz, the chimps cha-cha, and the lions tango. "Giraffes can't dance," they all jeer when it's Gerald's turn to prance.	These are two of my favourite books to read to the children I teach! Every time I read both of these books I get a lump in my throat and have to keep back the happy tears. They are gorgeous, colourful and fun books with the most wonderful, inspirational messages. I think we all struggle at times to be ourselves and see the value in our individuality but these books teach us the

	Deep in the African heartland Way out on the hot sunny plains, There lived a small lion who didn't fit in And Leo was this lion's name. All Leo wants is to love and hug his fellow lions, but his mother tells him that if he can't learn to hunt he has no place in the pride.	important truth that we are all special and unique and should be valued for it.
Black Beauty by Roger Anna Sewell	Black Beauty, a beautiful black stallion in 1870s England, recalls his life from his birth through his carefree life as a colt to the many hardships he suffered after achieving maturity. He goes through many owners, both good and bad, until he finally finds happiness and contentment.	I can remember choosing to read this book after reading lots of books that were very similar and feeling like I should try and read something classic for a change! I loved how this book was written from the point of view of the horse and it was a real tale of life with all its invevitable highs and lows. A really good first book if you are wanting to try some classic literature.