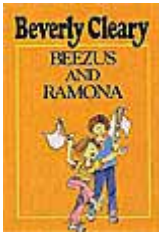




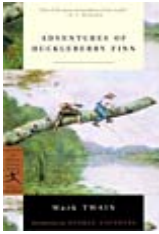
THE HOBART SHAKESPEAREANS' RECOMMENDED READING LIST



Beezus and Ramona

By Beverly Cleary

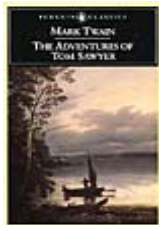
Beezus and Ramona is a very humorous book. It is about two very different sisters. Beezus, the older sister, tries hard to understand her younger sister, Ramona. As the younger of the two Ramona can be quite irritating. They take many crazy paths to find out the true meaning of what it is to be a sister.



The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

By Samuel Clemens

I loved *Huck Finn* because it is about friendship. There are many scenes when Huck saves his friend Jim's life. Huck and Jim make an amazing trip down a river, where they escape from slave traders, feuding families, and rascals and frauds. I admire Huck because he has to discover who he is, just like I do. I hope I can be as good as Huck one day.



The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

By Samuel Clemens

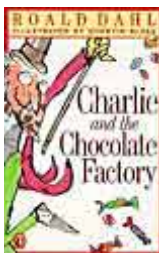
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is the funniest book I have ever read. It was hilarious. My favorite scene is when Tom fools his friends into whitewashing the fence. The love scenes between Tom and Becky are hysterical. I'd love to be friends with Tom Sawyer and have more adventures with him. He is a troublemaker, just like me!



My Side of the Mountain

By Jean Craighead

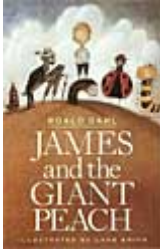
I liked the courageous character of the story. I am a little shy so I like reading books about people that are brave. I hope one day I will find some courage too. This novel was exciting and easy to read for me.



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By Roald Dahl

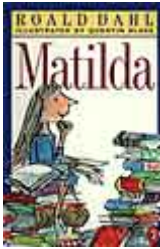
I enjoyed this book because it was very animated with the Oompa-Loompas and Violet turning into a big blueberry. I like all kinds of fantasy books, but this one was my favorite. I love the search for the Golden Ticket and Mr. Wonka's factory. Even if the movies they make are good, they won't be as good as the book.



James and the Giant Peach

By Roald Dahl

I loved this book. I laughed out loud when James crunches his mean Aunts. I like fantasy books and wished I had all the friends James makes in his giant peach. I like to pretend I have creature friends too.



Matilda

By Roald Dahl

I enjoyed the story because the parents were so different from any parents I had ever known. I was amazed by how smart a kid could be. Matilda is 5 years old and doesn't watch television-she just reads books! Her parents don't like the fact that she's reading. They want her to watch television! How lame! The story made me laugh a lot.



A Christmas Carol

By Charles Dickens

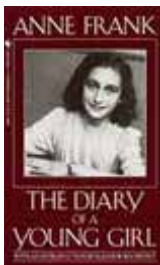
I have read this book twice now. It's about a grouchy old man named Ebenezer Scrooge. He is visited by 3 spirits on Christmas who show him the mistakes he has made in his life. It's a great Christmas story because it's about the true meaning of Christmas. It reminds us to be good to each other. I've cried both times I read it.



Ginger Pye

By Eleanor Estes

I like this book because it shows the relationship between a dog and its owner. The owner is really passionate about his dog. I want to have a dog one day, so I love books about dogs. It was easy to read and interesting.



Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl

By Anne Frank

I learned a lot from reading Anne's diary. It shows the horrible suffering of Jewish people during World War II. I was interested in all the people in the Hiding Place, and how the Frank and Van Daan families fought all the time. I understood Anne because I get mad at my family too.



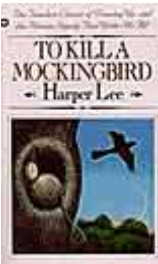
Lord of the Flies
By William Golding

I liked the symbols in this book. I learned about the darkness of man's heart. I now notice how kids follow others around in my school just as they do in the book. I loved how Piggy, Ralph, Simon, and Jack all represent types of people, and I was fascinated by the conch. — Alexis, 6th grade



The Phantom Tollbooth
By Norton Juster

I enjoyed this book because it was entertaining. I loved all the characters, but the Mathemagician and Tock were my favorites. This is a very imaginative and creative story. I like books that show that anything is possible. It is a heartwarming book that kids of almost any age should read. — Esther, 6th grade



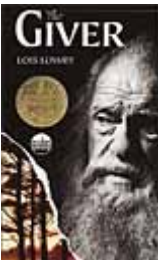
To Kill A Mockingbird
By Harper Lee

I want to grow up to be like Atticus Finch. This was a story with humor and mystery, and yet it was also very sad. It was different from any other novel I had ever read. I tried to read it slowly because I never wanted it to end. Atticus taught me about honesty, trust, and protecting innocent people. — Damian, 6th grade



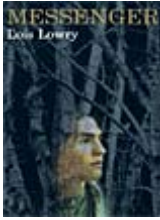
The Magician's Nephew
By C.S. Lewis

I liked *The Magician's Nephew* because of the adventures both children go through. I like Polly because she is very brave. I thought the Witch was a great villain because she is so mean to everyone. — Edgar, 5th grade



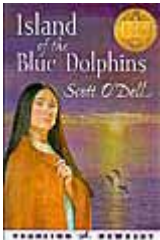
The Giver
By Lois Lowry

This is a strange and interesting book about a world very different from mine. I like books which take me to places I have never been. This is a place where people are assigned jobs and have no memory of anything that has happened before. The book is about staying strong and being yourself. I think it's a good lesson for kids.



The Messenger
By Lois Lowry

I liked this book because of Matt, the main character. He is special because he wants to help people. In the end he does just that. He helps heal puppies even though their owner does not give him the credit. Matt is special in my heart because he helps for all the right reasons. — Joyce, 5th grade



Island of the Blue Dolphins
By Scott O'Dell

Island of the Blue Dolphins is about a tribe that leaves for another place. A girl named Karana stays behind her little brother is lost. She has to survive using her brains and her courage. I am a girl and I liked reading an adventure about a girl like me. — Lucia, 5th grade



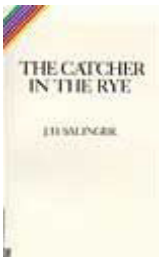
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
By J.K. Rowling

This book was very exciting. Hermione is my favorite character because she is so clever. I thought this was the best book of the Harry Potter series. I would recommend it to kids who are not Harry Potter fans. I think they would like this one because it has such a thrilling story. — Rodrigo, 5th grade



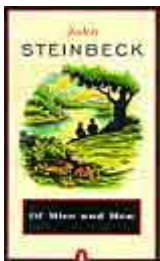
Esperanza Rising
By Pam Munoz Ryan

Esperanza Rising is a book about Esperanza, a rich young girl who is selfish. Her perfect life undergoes an abrupt series of misfortunes. This changes everything. Mama and she have no choice but to take off to California and the migrant farm workers' camp. Esperanza has to learn how to overcome the bad times life can bring.



The Catcher in the Rye
By J. D. Salinger

Holden Caulfield is my favorite character of all time! I even like to talk like him, in you wanna know the truth. I really understood how he feels about things. I may not want to be like him, but I like him a lot. He makes me laugh so hard even though I feel terrible about his sad situation. "Sleep tight, ya morons!" makes me laugh every time I think of it. This is a book that should be read by everyone. — William, 6th grade



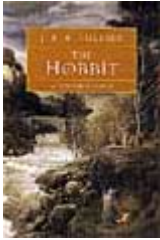
Of Mice and Men
By John Steinbeck

I enjoyed *Of Mice and Men* because of its realism. I also love history, and the story taught me some things about the Depression. The characters were all interesting, and Steinbeck always makes us see how every person is special. He always uses ordinary people in his stories. Lenny has helped me see people differently than I used to before. The book has some funny scenes, but most of it is incredibly sad. It is my favorite book of all time. — Timothy, 6th grade



The Red Pony
By John Steinbeck

I like reading John Steinbeck because he is easy to understand. I became interested in the story right away and I couldn't put the book down, even though it was very sad. I cared about Jody and what happened to him. — Peter, 5th grade



The Hobbit
By J.R.R. Tolkien

This book is my favorite of the year. I love Bilbo Baggins. He is so kind and funny and brave. I like all the riddles he has to answer in the dark in his contest with Gollum. The Dwarves are my favorite characters. I love the people in the book because none of them are perfect. They all have interesting problems and the battle with the dragon was exciting. — Adreanna, 5th grade



Charlotte's Web
By E.B. White

Charlotte's Web is one of my favorite books of all time. It's about a lucky pig named Wilbur, who is raised by a farmer's daughter. Fern (the daughter) does not want the little pig to be killed by her father. An amazing friendship develops between Wilbur and Charlotte, the world's coolest spider. Charlotte will teach Wilbur all about life. The book is very sweet. I read it over and over again.