



THE EMPOWER READING PROGRAM AT VICTORIA VILLAGE PUBLIC SCHOOL

The students who participate in Empower Reading at Victoria Village are in grades three and four. These students come to the program willingly each session and work very hard. They know they are part of something special! More than a dozen children were tested to determine who would be an optimal fit with the program in its first year at our school. This

year's participants know that Empower Reading provides them with an opportunity to become "expert readers." They are excited to think of what they will be able to read in the future:

"I want to be able to read a menu so I can order."

"I want to be able to read thick books that are interesting."

"I want to be able to read recipes so I can make yummy food."

"I want to be able to read road signs so I can be a good driver."

Since these goals are authentic, the children are very committed to becoming better readers, and they are eager to follow the pathway Empower provides, step by step.

Recently I was out on yard duty after finishing our session that day, when one of our Empower students came running up to me:

"Madame, Madame, do we have Empower tomorrow?" she asked.

I nodded, "You know we do, right?"

"Yes," she said with a big grin, "I was just checking."

Thank you Bessborough School Council for giving Victoria Village this incredible gift. A gift which changes the future of a child!