



QUEEN VICTORIA'S INNOVATI



Queen Victoria Public School, in the heart of the Parkdale neighbourhood of Toronto, is a creative wonder. Vibrant artwork everywhere gives the whole school a welcoming feeling. The artistic vibe is a tribute to the many students, staff, and local artists who have worked together to make art a part of their daily lives. For all the school's charms, the real jewel of the place is the library.

The teacher-librarian, Milica O'Brien, has poured her creative personality into every part of the library and has successfully made it a place that is enticing and exciting for both students and staff. A pirate skeleton guards an open treasure chest with jewel-laden texts at his feet; a little stove with a big pot of cookbooks stirs up some interest in reading, and a flock of sparkly fairies hovers over a large collection of pink and purple books. It makes you wish you were a reluctant reader in need of persuasion. Teacher resources that once stood unused on a back shelf are given a theatrical layout in one whole section of the library. Milica has worked hard to link numeracy and literacy through the arts. Easels display famous prints, steps are covered with art books linked to the curriculum, and math manipulatives are paired with resources in bins.