Transcript:

**Kirsty Murray:** “Hi, I’m Kirsty Murray and I love to read. I love to write as well and I’m the author of 18 books but it was all the books I read when I was growing up that made me want to become a writer.

Readers and writers go together, they’re connected, you can’t have one without the other.  When I was in school there wasn’t a Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge and I wish there had been because it’s fantastic to challenge yourself as a reader.  It’s easy to get into bad habits and stay reading the same kind of books over and over and over again which is a bit of shame because there’s a whole world of stores out there waiting for you to discover.

Some of you might be thinking ‘I don’t know what to read next’.  My advice would be to be bold, be brave, there’s a whole world of stories out there, there is a type of book that you may never ever have thought to open and then when you do you find out it’s fantastic, it’s just the sort of book that you love. Whether it’s a graphic novel, or a picture book, whether it’s non-fiction, or whether it’s a classic novel, there are so many different kinds of books out there written by writers from all around the world.

Take a risk, be a bit dangerous and read something that you wouldn’t have normally thought to read and really challenge yourself.”