

## Scotia Volunteers read across Jamaica



*Caption 1: Shynelle Anderson (centre), Scotia Investment representative, gets a demonstration of their reading prowess as Mountain View Primary students Justin Brown (left) and Mickayla Brown (right) read the story of the Frog Prince from the Children's Own. Anderson, was one of a number of Scotia Volunteers who had elected to read as part of the Read Across Jamaica Day initiative.*

*Caption 2: Scotia Volunteer, Courtney Sylvester (centre), Senior VP, Sales Service and Client Experience at Scotia Investments, has the rapt attention of Grade 1R students at Mountain View Primary as he reads to them from It's About Time: Jessie Bear. They too were intrigued as they participated in the reading. Volunteers visited numerous schools across the island to share the love of reading as part of the Read Across Jamaica Day exercise. From left is Kimone Williams, Kayla Williams, Nazya Howard and Jordan Thomas- shy and Shaheem Henry.*

Children across the island were treated to stories by Scotia Volunteers who made their way into schools to share the joy of reading for Read across Jamaica Day. The initiative is one of a number of activities taking place in schools across the island as Scotiabank celebrates child month.

“We want our children to have a passion for reading and one way to engage them is to read to and with them”, said Courtney Sylvester, Senior VP, Sales Service and Client Experience who participated at the Mountain View Primary activity. “We know that when children read it fosters creativity and enhances their communication skills, and we are happy to be able to be able to contribute to their development in this area” he continued.

The main project for the day was reading to the Mountain View Primary Grades 1 and 2 and a special session at Holy Family Primary and Infant school. However volunteers were also in schools in St. James, Trelawney, St. Ann, St. Mary, St. Elizabeth, St. Thomas and Portland.

Volunteers spent time talking about the importance of reading, while reading books chosen by the children. There were interactive sessions, with students chiming in at their favourite spots in the story, laughing and in some instances singing. As always, they were very intrigued with the visitors who had a great time interacting with the children.

The activities surrounding Read Across Jamaica Day form part of a number of initiatives Scotiabank has organized around the observance of Child Month, which include a tree planting project that will have students from 242 schools across the island learning about the importance of replenishing the environment.