

TrashMasters!™  
**REDUCE & REUSE**  
CHALLENGE



Elementary Division  
Brooklyn Borough  
Runner-Up

Brooklyn Arbor

# 2014 GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

This certificate is awarded with the sincere appreciation and esteem of a grateful Department and City in recognition of your school's efforts to help make New York City shine.



City of New York  
Department of Sanitation  
Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling  
[nyc.gov/recycle](http://nyc.gov/recycle)



# 2014 Golden Apple Awards Contest Entry Judging Info

(This sheet prepared for judges' use by DSNY BWPRR)



**ID Info:** 14018  
**School:** PS 14 Brooklyn Arbor  
**Grade Division:** LM  
**Borough:** K

**Golden Shovel Award contestant**  
(for borough Master School Composter)

## 2014 Project Entries received for:

**School Population: total #** 340

**Core Group:**  **Total Participating:**

**TrashMasters! Super Recyclers**

Received:

**TrashMasters! Reduce & Reuse Challenge**

10

340

Materials Depot: Give Trash Another Chance!

Received: 5/1/2014

Brooklyn Arbor's parent committee, "Materials for Makers," turned a closet into a "Materials Depot" for reusable items brought in by students, on a collection schedule. These materials are used by teachers, families, and students for projects, experiments, and crafts, with an overall lesson about reusing and giving new life to otherwise discarded items. Materials are reused for classroom projects, curriculum connections, Family Fridays, school-wide celebrations, and performances.

**TrashMasters! Team Up to Clean Up**

Received:

## Prior Year Entries:

13:TU-ru

## Current Prizes

14:RR-ru

## School Contact Information:

**Phone:** 718-963-0393 x1112

**Address:** 325 South 3 St  
Brooklyn

11211

**Block&Lot:** 3024230001

**DOE Location:** K414

**DOE Bldg:** K019

**Contest Coordinator:** Beth Reed

**Principal:** Eva Irizarry

**Sustainability Coord:** Beth Reed

## REQUIRED for Super Recyclers only:

**Custodian:** Michael Scalici

**Info Confirmed:**

# Brooklyn Arbor 2014 Golden Apple Application

## School Information

- PS 414
- Brooklyn Arbor
- 14K414
- 325 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Brooklyn, New York 11211
- Phone: (718) 963-0393 Fax: (718) 963-2083
- Principal: Eva Irizarry (718) 963-0393 [brooklynarbor@gmail.com](mailto:brooklynarbor@gmail.com)
- Contest Coordinator: Beth Reed, Magnet Coordinator, (718) 963-0393, [bethbkarbor@gmail.com](mailto:bethbkarbor@gmail.com)
- Brooklyn Arbor is in our second year as a new school. We are currently PK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade and will be growing full scale to 5<sup>th</sup> grade by 2015. We are a Magnet School of Global and Ethical Studies, which we practice through environmental sustainability. We believe in hands on, service learning through guided practice and discovery.

## Contest Entry Information

- Brooklyn
- Elementary
- Materials Depot- *Give Trash Another Chance!*
- Brooklyn Arbor is proud to enter for a chance to win The Golden Apple as we showcase our Materials Depot. In the summer before we first opened our doors, two parents had the idea of creating a Materials Depot that would collect recyclable or unused items from students and staff and then sort them by size, shape and material in order to create a room for teachers, families and students to visit and use for projects, experiments and crafts, with an overall lesson to our students and families of reusing and giving new life to otherwise discarded items. Materials are reused for classroom projects, curriculum connections, school-wide celebrations and performances.

## Student Involvement

- Student Participation Core Group: Reusing Extended Day Enrichment Club: 10 students
- Student Participation Total: 340
- Student Population Total: 340

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# Brooklyn Arbor 2014 Golden Apple Application Reduce & Reuse Challenge Entry Waste Prevention & Reuse Projects

## Implementation

### *Why This:*

For this year's Golden Apple award we would like to enter our Material Depot as our reusing entry. As our overall project focuses on reusing materials to create something new and give new life to old objects, we are targeting reuse as well as waste reduction of items that would typically be discarded, added to landfills or forgotten about in an old closet or room. By repurposing materials, we not only provide a second chance, but we give students time to explore, discover and create, re-create and make while teaching them that they have the power to contribute to the preservation of our natural world.

From our Materials for Makers parents:

*A group of parents have teamed up with Brooklyn Arbor to create Materials for Makers, an effort to support hands-on learning activities in the classroom by creating a storeroom stocked with discarded, but useful, materials to be transformed in the hands of our kids. We think the project empowers the students of Brooklyn Arbor to be "makers," builds community ties, and fosters a respect for the environment by making use of items that might otherwise end up in the trash.*

### *What Did You Do:*

As our parents worked to create the structure for the Depot, there was an old closet designated for them to design and renovate in order for it to be a functional and workable space. Parents worked hard to transform this space while the school worked to create systems, roll out and most important, get the students involved!

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## Project Planning: Objectives:

### 4 great reasons to support this project

**HANDS-ON LEARNING:** A well-stocked room of materials supports our teachers as they develop creative, hands-on learning projects that reinforce and build on lessons in all subject areas. Kids can be engineers, gardeners, artists, builders, and scientists as they transform unwanted items into meaningful objects.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:** Re-using materials reduces trash in encourages recycling. As children see items usually destined for landfills transformed in their hands, they will rethink notions of waste and possibility.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING:** Every child, family and even neighbors and businesses can support what we create and explore, from businesses donating excess supplies to artists helping develop projects for students.

**HELP OUR SCHOOL BUDGET:** As school budgets continue to suffer extreme cuts, projects that save money on supplies and lessen the burden on teachers to buy supplies are all the more important.



### Logistics:

Collection bin



Sorting barrels



Collection calendar



Materials



## Student Involvement:

Students received a reusable tote bag (pictured above) in the beginning of the year, along with a list of *collection items* for the depot. Every Thursday morning, a large bin on wheels is placed outside the school's entry; when students arrive they empty their materials into the bin, which is then wheeled into the depot to be sorted.

Student reusable bags!



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## Promotion:

In order to make our Depot a sustainable practice in our school, we encourage teachers and families to use the materials for projects, Family Fridays, school wide event days and celebrations. This message is communicated through internal staff emails, parent flyers and professional development training for staff that emphasizes the mission of the Depot and encourage the practice of not just collecting materials, but using the countless items and to give them a second, third or longer life!

### Family Friday



### 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School Depot Day

  
Brooklyn Arbor

**Depot Day Project Description**  
Please get down a brief overview of the project that you plan on completing with your class for the 100<sup>th</sup> Day Exhibition! Completed forms can be placed in Bob's mailbox. Thank you!

Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
Project Idea: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
Brooklyn Arbor

**Depot Day Wish List**  
Please write down any items that you need to make your project a success!  
The Materials for Makers Committee try their best to get them for you.

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Brooklyn Arbor

**Depot Day Expo Schedule**

Time	Class
11:30-11:40	Chestnut and Spruce
11:40-12:10	Hemlock and Sassafras
12:10-12:30	Birch and Dogwood
12:30-12:50	Sequoia and Juneberry
1:00-1:10	Willow and Hedwood
1:30-1:40	Cypress
1:50-2:10	Maple and Mulberry
2:10-2:45	Huisache and Laurel
	Open to parents

### Arbor Day



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## Collaboration:

The two parents who envisioned this depot created a parent committee called Materials for Makers. This committee meets to help plan events, volunteer and sort in the depot weekly. The Magnet Coordinator works to sustain the systems of the depot and work with teachers when thinking of how best to use the depot and incorporate it into lessons, activities and crafts. Teachers take initiatives to incorporate the Depot in their lessons, plan event and designed end of unit projects around it. There are a lot of conversations around landfills, and often you will hear a student say, ‘grab that (pointing to a reusable item) you don’t want it to go to a landfill!’

## Educational Components:

Through teacher training and collaboration, all staff use the Depot, whether they are making a holder for pencils on a desk, creating a birthday crown for a student, creating characters from social studies curriculum, classroom celebrations, Earth Day performances, making models of Native American houses, building a city to represent damage from hurricane Sandy or creating wetlands to show a way to prevent future hurricane damage, students are engaged and committed to giving new life to old objects as they create and make projects that showcase their learning and understanding of various curriculum connections. To celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School, all classes created projects using 100 items in the Depot. These projects were displayed for parents and the school community. The 100<sup>th</sup> Day Fair was featured in the District 14 Newsletter.

Lanape



Student made wetlands



Native America long house



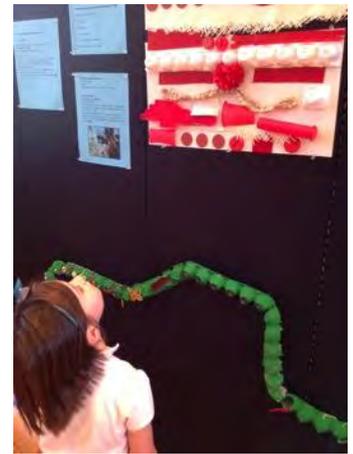
Brooklyn Bridge Replicas



## Valentine- Friendship Day Celebration



## 100<sup>th</sup> Day- Depot Day



## Project Analysis

### What Worked:

Excitement is constantly a buzz as materials come in, and projects are made! The connection between trash and treasure is great and students love using 'old' materials to create something new. The greater school-wide conversations as students *make* and *create* are inspiring and they could teach us all about reusing and repurposing. The Depot facilitates parent involvement. Parents hosted a Friendship Day (Valentine's) craft event for the entire school body. They used materials from the Depot to create stamps and recycled paper for the crafts. For our annual Arbor Day celebration, parents worked to prepare materials to support classroom projects and instruction surrounding conservation and sustainability. The resulting birdhouses, model forests and planters are all made out of reused materials.

### What Didn't Work:

Sometimes we find we are getting too many of one item or not enough of another, which has had us re work our appeals and consistently connect with families about what we need and specific materials for projects. Egg cartons and paper tower rolls are a huge hit!



### **Applicability to Other Schools:**

Teachers are in constant need of materials to support classroom projects related to content areas including social studies, science, literacy and math. This is a project that all schools would benefit from implementing, as it positively impacts parents, teachers and students alike. I would tell other schools to start small and have a team to start this project. It is important logistical systems are all thought of and worked out prior to a launch. I would also advise for this planning team to think big picture, what do they want the purpose of their 'Depot' to be? When working backwards from what they want the end product to be it will be easier to plan how to make that happen. For example, we want students to reuse materials for projects and to enhance curriculum, they we are able to make a calendar of collection days, an item list of what we want and a system for collection. I would also advise for there to be a few teachers on the team to help give the classroom perspective.

### **Measuring Success:**

Success is measured through the smiles and energy of the students and ease of depot usage for the teachers. There are a lot of behind the scenes work with our Materials Depot, but it is worth it when we see students dropping off materials and telling a friend, 'I can't wait to see what we make with this!' The conversation around reusing and giving new life to old objects has huge environmental impact on targeting waste prevention and teaching our students, families and community about reusing.

### **Future Plans:**

We are currently a Pre K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade school and although we will be a magnet school forever, this is the last year of federal magnet funding. We have been able to use some magnet funds for the Depot student reusable bags and supplies to help with the operations of the depot, but as we grow next year, we need more funding for bags for our future students. As we expand to fourth grade, we will have more students and more families bringing in more materials, we were are excited about, however this means more planning, bins, collection bins, which all cost money. We would love to use the money for new bags for our future Pre-K and Kindergarten families as well as other students that will enter various grades. The depot requires a lot of manpower and supplies and having some money to spend on our expansion as we grow would be most helpful.

Thank you and we welcome visitors to our Depot to showcase this great project!

**For more projects and our work visit:**

**<http://materialsformakers.tumblr.com/>**

**\*Scroll down to view larger supporting documents\***

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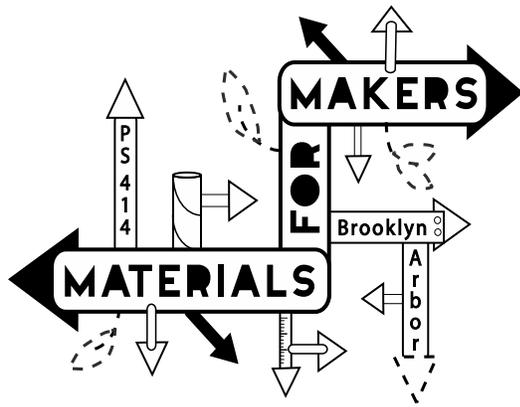
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## INTRODUCING MATERIALS FOR MAKERS!

A group of parents have teamed up with Brooklyn Arbor to create Materials for Makers, an effort to support hands-on learning activities in the classroom by creating a storeroom stocked with discarded, but useful, materials to be transformed in the hands of our kids. We think the project empowers the students of Brooklyn Arbor to be “makers,” builds community ties, and fosters a respect for the environment by making use of items that might otherwise end up in the trash.

Your child will soon receive a Materials for Makers tote bag thanks to a generous donation by the family and friends of Olivia Barker-Dell and Rhys Oates. We hope your family will use this bag to collect the items listed below, and send them to school with your child to be placed in our Materials Depot for all teachers and community members to use. We also welcome your ideas for projects that parents, students and school staff might create together. With everyone’s involvement, we think Materials for Makers can become a vibrant and fun part of our school community.

### MATERIALS TO DONATE EVERY THURSDAY

#### YES!!!

- Egg Cartons
- Metrocards
- plastic containers/lids
- packing materials
- gift wrap/craft paper
- shoe boxes
- wood scraps
- trim/ribbons
- buttons/beads
- plastic bottles/caps
- envelopes/paper
- paper towel rolls
- string/yarn
- craft supplies

AND MORE ITEMS LIKE THESE!

#### NO!!!

- glass
- clothing
- used fabric
- housewares
- food items
- stuffed animals/toys
- tools/hardware
- housepaint
- spraypaint

\*\*Clean and wash all reusable items that have touched food\*\*

Have a large donation, or unsure what’s OK?  
Contact: [materialsformakers@gmail.com](mailto:materialsformakers@gmail.com)

### 4 GREAT REASONS TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT

**HANDS-ON LEARNING:** A well-stocked room of materials supports our teachers as they develop creative, hands-on learning projects that reinforce and build on lessons in all subject areas. Kids can be engineers, gardeners, artists, builders, and scientists as they transform unwanted items into meaningful objects.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:** Re-using materials reduces trash generated and encourages recycling. As children see items usually destined for the trash transformed in their hands, they will rethink notions of waste and possibility.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING:** Every child, family and even neighbors and businesses can support what we create and explore, from businesses donating excess supplies to artists helping develop projects for students.

**HELP OUR SCHOOL BUDGET:** As school budgets continue to suffer extreme cuts, projects that save money on supplies and lessen the burden on teachers to buy supplies are all the more important.

### HOW TO SUPPORT OUR MAKERS

1. Collect items in your home or business from the yes/no list
2. Use the Materials for Makers totebag to send in your clean and safe materials every THURSDAY. Your bag will be returned home the following day.
3. Submit your own idea for re-using materials to your classroom teacher, or volunteer to help sort donated materials, or make a run to gather donated materials.

**CONTACT:** [materialsformakers@gmail.com](mailto:materialsformakers@gmail.com)

Anne Kenney and Louisa Pregerson, Co-Organizers

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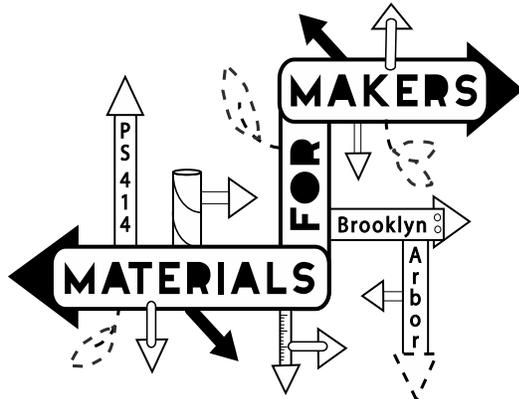
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## INTRODUCIENDO A MATERIALS FOR MAKERS!

Un grupo de padres se juntaron con Brooklyn Arbor para crear Materials for Makers, para apoyar actividades de aprendizaje practica en la aula creando un almacén lleno de materiales que han sido botado pero todavía se pueden usar y ser transformados en las manos de nuestros niños. Creemos que este proyecto apodera los estudiantes de Brooklyn Arbor ser Makers, cree lazos con la comunidad, y fomenta respeto para el medio ambiente haciendo uso de artículos que hubieran terminado en la basura.

Muy pronto su niño recibirá una bolsa Tote de Materials for Makers gracias a las donaciones muy generosas de las amistades y familias de Olivia Barker Dell y Rhys Ainsley Oates. Esperamos que su familia use esta bolsa para recoger artículos anotados aquí, y los traiga a la escuela con su niño/a para ponerlo en nuestro Materials Depot para que todos los maestros y miembros de la comunidad puedan usarlos. También son bienvenidos sus ideas para proyectos que padres, estudiantes, y trabajadores de la escuela pueden crear juntos. Con la participación de todos, creemos que Materials for Makers puede ser una parte vibrante y divertida de nuestra comunidad.

### MATERIALES PARA DONAR TODOS LOS JUEVES

#### YES!!!

- Cartones de huevos
- Metrocards
- Contenedores plásticos
- Recorte y pon en su nevera
- Papel para envolver regalos
- Cajas de zapatos
- Pedacitos de madera
- Puntilla / cintas
- Botones
- Botellas plásticas / tapas
- Sobres / papel
- Rollos de papel de toallas
- Cuerda / hilo
- Suministros de artesanía
- Y MUCHAS COSAS MAS!

#### NO!!!

- Vidrio
- Ropas
- Tela usada
- Artículos para el hogar
- Cosas para comer
- Peluches
- Herramientas
- Juguetes
- Pintura de casa
- Pintura en aerosol

\*\*Limpia y lava todos los artículos reutilizables que han tocado comida\*\*

¿Tienes una donación grande, o no estas seguro de algo?

Póngase en contacto con:  
materialsformakers@gmail.com

### BUENAS RASONES PARA APOYAR ESTE PROYECTO

**APRENDIZAJE PRÁCTICA:** Un cuarto ampliamente surtido con materiales ayuda a nuestras maestras crear proyectos creativos que fortalecen y construyen lecciones en todas áreas. Los niños/as pueden ser ingenieros, jardineros, artistas, constructores, y científicos mientras transforman artículos no deseados en objetos significativos.

**MAYORDOMIA DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE:** Materiales reutilizables reduce la basura generada y alienta el reciclaje. Cuando los niños/as ven artículos usualmente destinados para la basura transformado en sus manos, ellos/as reconsideraran las nociones de basura y posibilidades.

**EDIFICANDO COMUNIDAD:** Cada niño/a, familia, y hasta vecinos y negocios pueden apoyar lo que creamos y exploramos, desde negocios donando suministros en exceso hasta artistas ayudando a crear proyectos para los estudiantes.

**AYUDA EL PRESUPUESTO DE NUESTRA ESCUELA:** Mientras el presupuesto de las escuelas continúa sufriendo cortes extremos, proyectos que ahorran dinero en suministros y alivia el cargo de las maestras a comprar suministros es aun más importante.

### COMO APOYAR A NUESTROS MAKERS

1. Colecta artículos en su casa o negocio de la lista si/no.
2. Usa la bolsa Tote de Materials for Makers para mandar sus materiales limpios y sin peligro todos los JUEVES. Su bolsa será devuelta el próximo día.
3. Somete sus propias ideas para reutilizar materiales a la maestra, o sea un voluntario para ayudar a organizar los materiales donados, o reúne los materiales donados.

**CONTACTOS:** materialsformakers@gmail.com  
Louisa Pregerson y Anne Kenney, Co-Organizers

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October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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January							February							March							April						
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May						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- PLASTIC/PLASTICO**= bottles, containers, packing material, caps, lids, craft items, straws, styrofoam, milk jugs, plastic ribbon, plastic buttons, ANYTHING PLASTIC!
- PAPER/PAPEL**= packing materials, cardboard, shoeboxes, wrapping paper, tissue paper, craft materials, cartons, egg cartons, un-used envelopes, paper tubes, ANYTHING PAPER!
- EVERYTHING/TODO**= fabric, beads, glitter, wood scraps, ribbon, string, yarn, metrocards, craft materials, ANYTHING FROM THE COLLECTION LIST!

**NO!!!**  
 glass/cosas de cristal  
 clothing/ropa  
 used fabric/tela usada  
 housewares/cosas del hogar  
 food items/alimentos  
 stuffed animals/peluches  
 toys/juguets  
 tools/herramientas  
 housepaint/pintura de casa  
 spraypaint/pintura de aerosol

**ALL MATERIALS MUST BE SAFE AND WASHED CLEAN WITH SOAP IF THEY HAVE TOUCHED FOOD!**  
**TODOS LOS MATERIALES DEBEN SER LAVADOS CON JABON SI HAN TOCADO LA COMIDA!**

Have a large donation, or unsure what's OK?  
 Tienes una donación grande, o no está seguro qué es aceptable?  
 Contact/Contacto: materialsformakers@gmail.com

# MATERIALS DEPOT COLLECTION CALENDAR 2013 - 2014

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### **Depot Day Project Description**

*Please jot down a brief overview of the project that you plan on completing with your class for the 100<sup>th</sup> Day Exhibition! Completed forms can be placed in Beth's mailbox. Thank you!*

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Idea:**

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### **Depot Day Wish List**

**Please write down any items that you need to make your project a success!**

**The Materials for Makers Committee try their best to get them for you.**

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**Requests:**

