



Public School 174
William Sidney Mount
65-10 Dieterle Crescent, Rego Park, NY 11374

March 2014

LEGO Community Day
Showcasing Creativity!



Do you remember building with LEGOs, those interlocking red, yellow, green, and blue blocks? I would bet that you did not realize the important math skills such as sorting, scale, fractions, proportions, ratios and area - that you were learning.

You can also read more about LEGO and their importance at the link <http://www.educationnews.org/k-12-schools/are-legos-the-answer-to-americas-stem-problem/>.

We are thrilled to be able to offer this hands-on, fun and engaging tool for learning for our students during the day and for our families to build and learn together. On Saturday, March 1, 2014, over 300 of our students, staff and parents participated in our 2nd Annual LEGO Community Day. We also provide an afterschool class for our budding engineers and designers and have bins and boxes of LEGO building blocks available for class sessions with their teachers, as well as an indoor recess option.

Every child attending our events receives a LEGO magazine. If interested, you can sign up for a free two year subscription for your child at:

<http://club1.lego.com/en-US/subscription/default.aspx?step=2&SkuId=9052b50e-271e-46d2-9abb-e1950f8cc438&CountryId=US&cahandle=>

Our school has received these LEGO products through the generosity of individuals and supporters of DonorsChoose.org, as well as through a grant from *Education Blueprints Association (EBA)* a 501(c)3 not-for-profit whose mission is “*To provide resources and programs that deliver education solutions for individuals, teachers, and students.*” *EBA* focuses on championing for learners in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (*STEM*) education by designing, developing, and implementing programs at all levels of the educational continuum.

We look forward to beginning a robotics program with interested students later this spring with support from both our PS 174 families and a grant from our local Exxon-Mobil Station at 64-10 Woodhaven Boulevard, Rego Park, NY.

Planting Seeds and Trees

A CASA Grant Partnership with Queens Botanical Gardens



Our PS 174 students and families are enjoying both Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings this Spring, learning about the plants we need to assure that our lives are healthy and bountiful! From a generous *CASA Grant* from the *New York City Council* and our Councilwoman Karen Koslowitz, PS 174 families are spending extra time in school. During the spring months, groups of students and teachers as well as students and their families are enjoying lessons from educators from the *Queens Botanical Gardens*. They are learning about how plants grow, what plants we eat, and how trees and plants grown through the seasons. These family/child activities include planting seeds, touring the changing seasons of growth on our school grounds, and enjoying tasty roots, stems, leaves and seeds.

March is a fun time of learning in our school, during the regular day, after school and even on Saturdays. Our days are full - enriched and engaging through the projects, books and activities presented and designed by our teachers and expert visitors. As we know, when children are engaged in learning they learn. When children come to a school that they love, they love to learn!

Enjoy the season and the lovely spring weather to come,