

# FutureCorps

Long Island students making a difference



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## Mindful Toy Making

Community-minded 6th, 7th and 8th grade students at **Bay Shore Middle School** have been putting their wood-working skills to good use as members of the Toy Making Club. In addition to building handcrafted toys to donate to children in need, the Club also sells them at their annual fundraiser and donates the proceeds to less fortunate Bay Shore community families.

Last year the Club donated more than \$1,000 and 350 toys and, with each passing year, tries to surpass the amount of money raised and number of toys donated. The Club, established by Bay Shore Technology Teacher Steve Kaplan in 2008, is teaching the next generation the importance of helping others, and the positive impact it has on their community.

When asked why he joined the Toy Making Club, 7th grader Jake said "To help others, have fun, and learn some skills. I thought that this would give me experience because I want to become an engineer in the future." Sixth grader Bridget added, "I joined because it makes me feel proud and happy knowing that the toy I made is being used by another kid who needs it more than me."



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