



In Room 4 (four-year-olds), Jason and Jacob construct their sculptures with the help of teacher Laurie Niederman.



Children in Room 2 (three-year-olds), Sophia, Sam and Kenneth constructing their recycled structure.



Teacher Rita Karyo helps motivate Dylan, Nicholas and Lucien and Rachel to create.

GN Community School Goes Green

As part of its ongoing goal of promoting a clean and healthy environment for its students, staff, educators, parents and visitors, the Great Neck Community School has adopted "green" practices for all of its school cleaning products. The Community School is now using solely "green" cleaning products, or environmentally accountable and health-oriented cleaning alternatives.

The "green" products are safer for both human health and the environment. Furthermore, the safer "green" cleaning products work just as well or better than traditional products and do not cost more. The "green" products are now being used for all school cleaning including glass cleaning, floor mopping, organic

(continued on page 27)

GN Community School (continued from page 3)

odor removal, carpet cleaning, and bathroom cleaning. According to Community School Director Barbara Breslow, "We are delighted to have found environmentally-accountable and health-oriented cleaning products. We are joining the Great Neck School District in the commitment to the health and safety of young children."

Community School parent and former U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Analyst Linda Kareff said, "It is particularly important that we reduce the toxins from cleaning solutions in this age group because their bodies are so small and they spend so much time playing on the floor." Community School parent Daphne Levy said, "The Community School is always at the forefront of trends to improve the well-being of our children."

Community School grandma Reva Levy added, "It's a great thing that the Community School has gone green because it is safer for the health of the children and adults who work in and come to the building. These products do not emit any toxic fumes and are safer for the environment as well."

The Community School's "green" practice announcement coincided with the school's Earth Day curriculum. As part of the school's Earth Day celebration, students learned about protecting our environment and saving our planet through a

variety of individual and community activities. One of the 3-year-old classes made a giant class sculpture from their families' recycled plastic bottles and containers. A 4-year-old class learned in sign language how to say "reduce, recycle, and re-use." Other classes created special reusable "trash" bags for the car or home. All children read books or sang songs related to our "pretty planet."

The Great Neck Community School is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, multi-cultural cooperative nursery school incorporated in 1932. The school is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs, licensed by the New York State Department of Social Services and registered by the State of New York Education Department. As such it meets national, state and local standards in certification and training, curriculum, classroom environment, children's health and safety and child-school-parent interpersonal relations.

Since 1948, the Community School has been located in a wonderful Tudor house that has been thoroughly renovated and modernized but still retains the warm, nurturing feeling of "home." Next year, the Community School will celebrate its 75th year anniversary serving the children and families of Great Neck. For information, call Lisa Cole at 482-5005 or email GNCS225@aol.com.