

Scraps of NYC

Sonja Stein Pratt Institute Spring 2025 Professor Kate Hixon IND-402-01 Capstone Studio - Exhibit "Compost is garbage made out of stuff from nature."

PBS: Peg + Cat

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Kids & Composting in NYC

Without proper education and implementation of compost food waste ends up in landfills. In a city like NYC, this problem is magnified by the large population of residents and establishments. In a study from October 2017, the average New York City household produces 8.4 pounds of food waste. Each household produces over 436 pounds of compostable waste per year. To combat this problem responders from the report suggested education on the issue of food waste in both the education system as well as through advertisements and making city-wide composting easier and cheaper. Educating the youth will ingrain the

importance of dealing with food waste more sustainability, like composting.

The NYC sanitation department has been rolling out composting to residents with curbside composting.

The city will pick up, will pick

up ALL leaf and yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled

paper. This includes all yard waste, food scraps, uncoated paper products with food grease, and certified compostable products. Things that the NYC Department of Sanitation highlights as not being compostable include, "diapers, personal hygiene products, animal waste, wrappers, non-paper packaging, and foam

products". The city wide composting initiative will help the city keep their landfills reduced.

As a better replacement to community composts the city's industrial initiatives can prevent a majority of the organic waste from all streams of landfill.

Learning about eco-helpful habits at an early age encourage positive behaviors later in life. The youth will determiner the staying power of programs such as these.

Using imaginative play through whimsical New York City iconography in a museum exhibition to educate the city's youth in sustainable composting practices. This play allows for children to learn and develop language, cognitive, and physical habits. It is more than just a way to have fun; it is a vital educational process that supports children's physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development. Through play, children explore the world around them, try out new ideas, and practice important skills in a natural and engaging way. This play will ingrain the fun of composting so that when



it comes time to bring those habits onto their everyday lives it won't be a chore. Visiting the Bronx children's museum as a space for this exhibit was wonderful to.



In a city such as New York,
where the green space may
only be a near by park.
Learning about natural
cycles such as composting can
lead to more eco-friendly and
eco-activism communities for
the future.

Using imaginative play through whimsical New York City iconography in a museum exhibition to educate the city's youth in sustainable composting practices.

Finding Form & Function

The big apple, pizza slice, and bagel all iconic foods of the city, used in as scraps to indicate their association with organic waste and composting. These scraps make the foundations of the exhibit. Targeted to kids between the ages of 5-8.

The apple core was the starting point. This was going to be the composting unit.

Looking at backyard composers the two types of composting that would work for this kind of exhibit would be a tumbler or vermi composer. The difference being that one has worms and the other doesn't as well as a vermi composer has parts that stack and take apart where as the

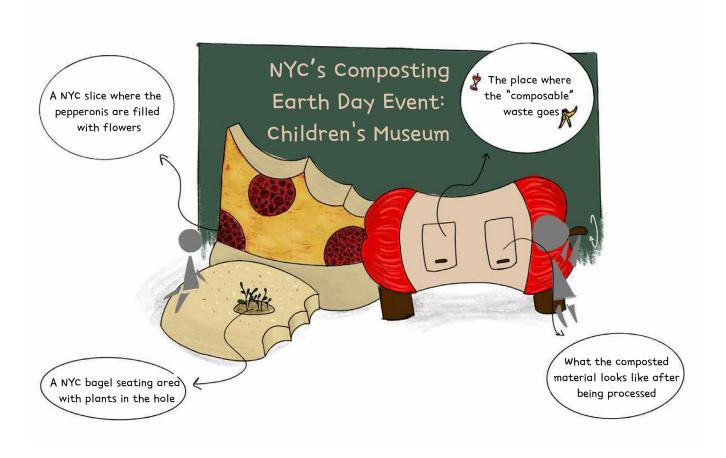
tumbler has draws and compartments that don't change. Well both are great methods of home composting since the compost inside the unit would be a toy replication and therefore less fun to incorporate worms. The tumbler is also a great experieacne for the children to spin and get out some energy.

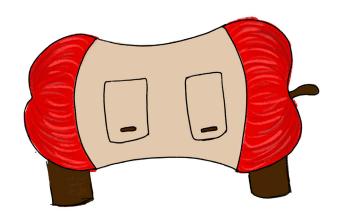
The bagel as a seat would be another point for the kids to congregate, climb, and sit.

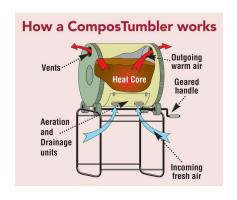
Made in a softer material like foam the climbing and sitting would be comfortable for a verity of heights. This element could also be utilized for a conversation zone where the kids go over their new found

composting knowledge.

The last and most iterated on element is the slice of pizza. Originally a floral wall to illustrate to kids the use of compost in aiding things to grow. Now a signage post teaching kids the fundamentals of composting in NYC. The signage is both in English and Spanish, the two most common languages of the city, encouraging kids of all backgrounds to learn.



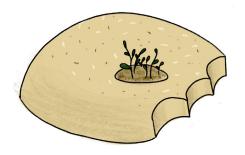


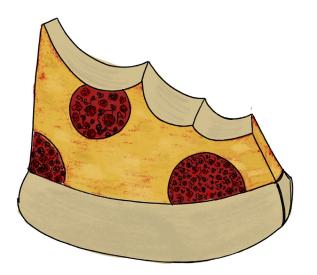




The big apple's core as a double barrel composer.

Handle to turn would be the stem and the two compartments would be accessible at the core. The compartments would hold 'compost' thats full of food scraps and the other would have the broken down compost.

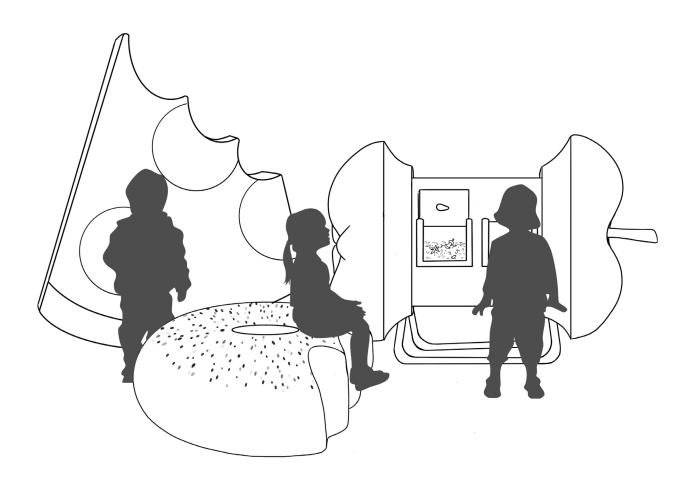


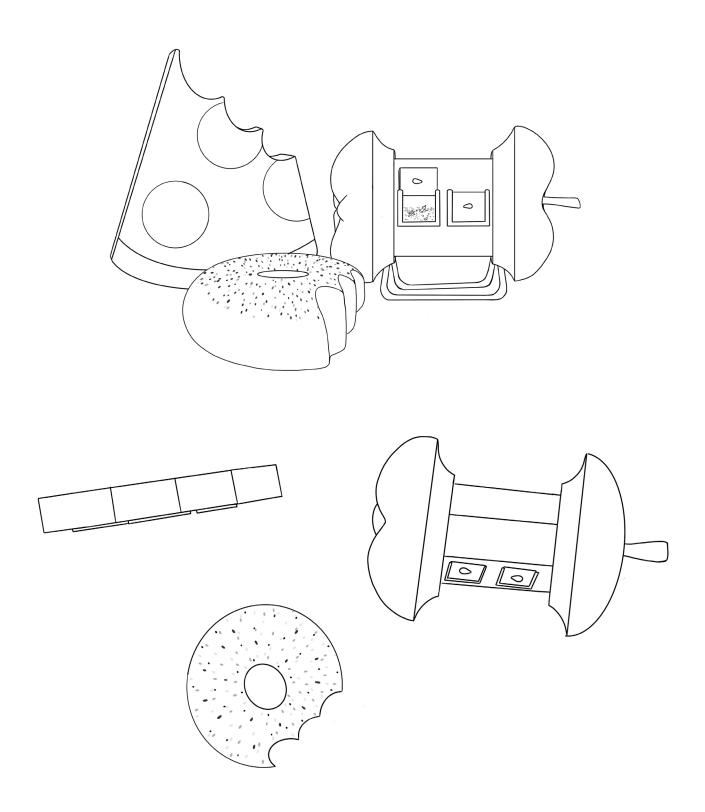


The NYC bagel that has a bite taken from it would serve as a seating area. The whole in the middle would also have a planter that would have small plants that could be with associated with bagel toppings (like herbs). This was eventually simpifed to just a seating element.

In early ideation The NYC slice of pizza that has been mostly eaten would also house some plants. The pepperonis would have a spice for wall planters to house red flowers. This was later switched to signage.

Forms & Floor Plans







What is composting? ¿Qué es compostaje?

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupti dolesequas duntion sendamu: auat aui auossitiis et unt volore

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupti dolesequas duntion sendamus auat aui auossitiis et unt volore

How Do I Compost in NYC? ¿Cómo puedo compastar en Nueva York?

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupti dolesequas duntion sendamus quat qui auossitiis et unt volore

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupti dolesequas duntion sendamus

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupti dolesequas duntion sendamus quat qui quossitiis et unt volore

Why Should I Compost? ¿Porqué debería; compostar?

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupt dolesequas duntion sendamus quat qui auossitiis et unt volore

Turibus audandelles quod et re maximust optati simagnitinus mi, vendel eost estrupt dolesequas duntion sendamus quat qui quessitiis et unt volore

Turibus audandelles auod et re maximust









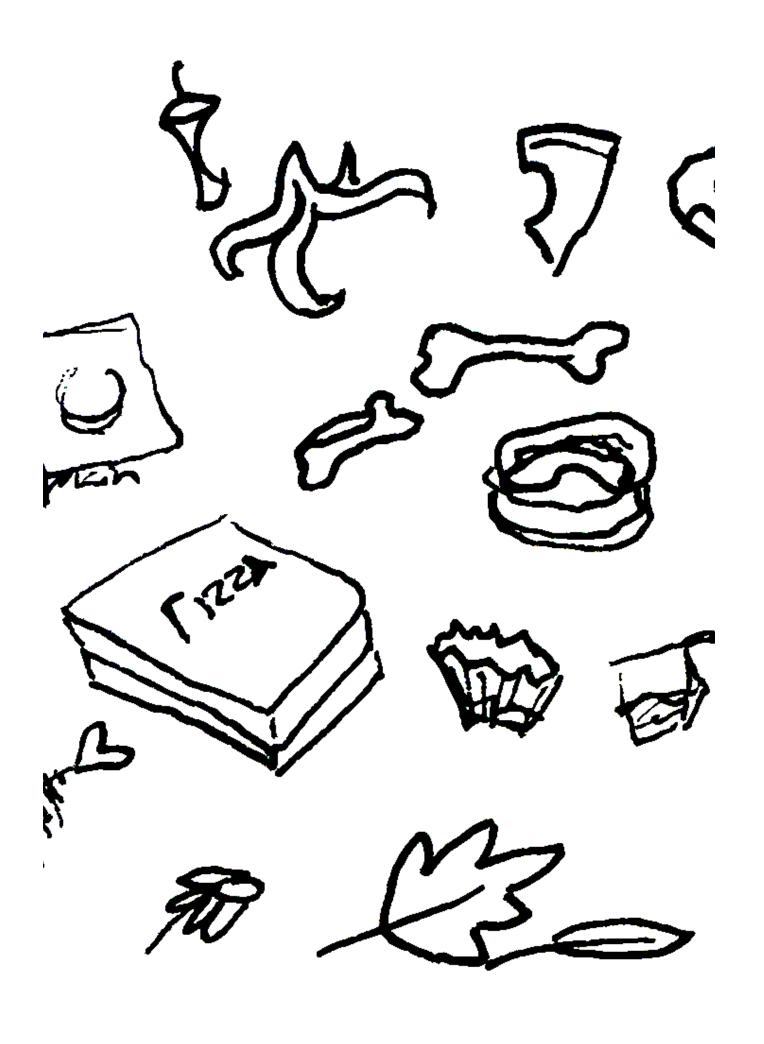
This 1/4th scale model captures the interaction point with final colors and shapes.
Included are 2 five year old figures for scale.

Model made with pink foam, spray primer, paint, museum board, ply

wood, aluminum tubing, PLA, acrylic, epoxy, & glue.







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