# LEGO® Education solutions are being used in a variety of different ways in this New York school!

Brooklyn principal explains why his students and teachers can't get enough LEGO Education.

## About the School:

- District: P.S. 188 Michael E. Berdy, Brooklyn, NY
- Principal: Frederick Tudda, 13 years
- Grades: pre-K-5
- LEGO<sup>®</sup> Education classroom solutions: LEGO Education WeDo
- LEGO Education StoryStarter

#### The Need

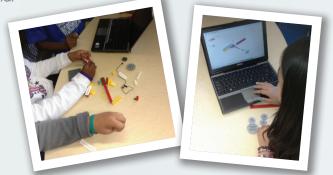
P.S. 188 Principal Fred Tudda wanted what every principal wants for their students: to get them college and career ready and to engage them to participate in education on a daily basis. He was looking for something that would be both hands on and captivating. Mr. Tudda and his teachers assessed a variety of possible solutions and researched technology products and after-school programs, but they couldn't find a solution that would work best for their school and their students. Then, they heard about LEGO Education.

### **The Solution**

"We heard about LEGO Education, and we dug deep," said Tudda. "We researched it, looked at the evidence, and read the statistics that support the program. Two of my teachers really got committed to the program. They thought it was a wonderful opening to get our students and school involved." The school started with buying just enough LEGO Education WeDo solutions for these two teachers' classrooms. As the success and excitement from these classrooms spread throughout the school, other teachers grew eager to get involved. The two teachers became STEM certified by attending online classes and were awarded the Showcase Grant from Education Blueprints Association. With this grant money, they were able to expand the program and its success to more than 560 students, expanding their WeDo program and also implementing StoryStarter, a hands-on literacy tool that engages students to read and write. Student engagement soared, and students wanted more access to the LEGO Education solutions. That's when Mr. Tudda and his team began exploring opportunities to expand their investment beyond the classroom.

## The Result

The students not only have access to LEGO Education WeDo and StoryStarter in their third-, fourth-, and fifthgrade classes, but the program has grown to include a LEGO Education lab that is a classroom completely dedicated to LEGO building and LEGO robotics, an afterschool program that uses LEGO Education solutions, a Friday Community Academic Enrichment Cluster that has a LEGO Education rotation, and many Saturday Family Fun LEGO days. "As a result of LEGO Education, the attendance has increased. Students are motivated to come to school. It has helped to unify the students; they work together in a collaborative manner, and it has increased their engagement. We have a waiting list to get students in the LEGO Education Friday program," Tudda says. The students are present and wanting to learn, but there has also been a shift in the mindsets of the students. The teachers hear girls talking in the hallways about being engineers, and the students even want to go to feeder schools that are outside of their school zone so they can continue with STEM programs and LEGO Education solutions. "For any school that is interested in implementing a program like ours, I recommend investigating the program, researching it, looking at the cost, but more importantly coming to see a program in operation. Take a look at the children involved and see how wonderful the program is working," Tudda said.



LEGO Education is really an instrumental product for engaging students and making them college and career ready, which is our ultimate goal.

> Frederick Tudda Principal



