Tips to Help You Start a MakerSpace in Your School Library

Plan Your Space!
Determine the area(s) that will be used for MakerSpace. Are there spaces where noisy or messy projects are permitted? Is there space for collaboration?

Study Up!
Learn all about the Maker Movement. Read The Maker Playbook, view websites, visit a local Makerspace, talk to experts and MAKE!

Organization is Key!
Take the time to organize all materials in clearly labeled containers. Store supplies in a manner that is easy for students to access.

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Educate Makers!
Plan a thorough "Maker Orientation" for all students. Establish clear guidelines for makers, so they know what is expected of them (time limits, clean-up, asking for help, etc).

Show Me the Money!
Start early securing funding for materials. There are numerous grants available to help support your space. Solicit donations from school community members.

Work Together!
Build a community of makers that work collaboratively. Makers can serve as "experts" and help one another. Bring in mentors from the community. Gather feedback from makers: What is working and what isn’t?

You can be sure to be a responsible MAKER by following our MakerSpace guidelines:
1. Make sure to get a wristband from your teacher.
2. Be creative, take risks, try something new!
3. Work independently or with other makers. Only ask for adult help in an emergency.
4. Speak gently.
5. When the timer rings, clean up...clean up...CLEAN UP! With the great privilege of making comes the great responsibility of cleaning up.
6. Keep the materials organized. Return all materials to where you got them from.
7. Teach others and/or share your learning!
8. Remember: Failure is part of the process. Do not give up! Tinker...adjust...and try again!

Thank you for being a responsible Maker!

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