



Material Stories

GET INSPIRED #04
VEGAN

BROWSE

GREEN SCHOOL

A school made of bamboo that gives kids a sustainable start in life
» www.greenschool.org

VEGETAL CHAIR

Can you plant a chair? VITRA allowed the bouroullec brothers to try
» www.vitra.com/en-gb/collage/design/vegetal-growing-a-chair/

ECOCRADLE

Packaging material that is not manufactured but grown like plants
» www.ecovatedesign.com

PALMLEATHER

Areca palm leaves are made into slippers by Tjeerd Veenhoven
» www.tjeerdveenhoven.com

WINDOWFARMS

(do-it-yourself) vertical gardens that use natural window light
» www.windowfarms.org

SIXES LAST

Botanic masterpiece by animation studio 1st Ave Machine
» www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmvwN1Go8zc

BACK FROM ASIA



Paula Raché and Aart van Bezooyen are back from Asia. From March-August 2011 they have been traveling around the world discovering sustainable solutions for materials and design.
» www.itsnoteasybeinggreen.net

HELLO

Welcome to VEGAN, the fourth issue of the Get Inspired newsletter. This is also a first update from Material Stories after the It's Not Easy Being Green project that took us around the world in search for sustainable solutions in materials and design. Why VEGAN? One of the things that impressed us during six months in twelve countries was the availability and design potential of bamboo, palm leaves, golden grass, and other plants. A good reason to say "Hello again" with a focus on plant-based materials.

Besides books tips and inspiring events we featured Vegetal Ivory and Golden Grass, two of our favorite materials from South-America. These and more materials are currently exhibited at the 'Made Of..' material library showcased in this newsletter. Enjoy browsing through a collection of inspiring websites including a music video by 1stAveMachine, sit back and relax for three minutes.

Finally, it's time to mention the cover image. This closeup of colorful bamboo logs was photographed in Brazil. The back-side of this newsletter completes this image with an illustration (by www.callmepaula.com) that demonstrates the beauty and various uses of bamboo around the world.

* Aart van Bezooyen (Owner, Material Stories)

READ



DESIGN FOR A LIVING WORLD

Design for a Living World challenges us to think about the products we use - where they come from, how they are made, and the impact they have on our planet.

Cooper-Hewitt



WORLDCHANGING (REVISED)

The second edition of the bestselling book is extensively revised to include the latest trends, technologies, and solutions in sustainable living.

Abrams Books



LOVE EARTH

A book full of small ideas that can be a big help for our planet. An example is the cover itself which is made from recycled scraps from the bookmaking process.

Victionary

TALK

Dear Elvin, could you tell us more about 'Made of..?'

EK: "Made of.. is a material library that consists of numerous material samples and their applications. You can also find information about physical properties, environmental properties and manufacturing processes. Basically, it's an open source material database developed for design education."

Is the 'Made of..' different from other libraries?

EK: "Yes. First, very few universities have such physical material libraries. 'Made of..' is unique because it's put together by students for students. The materials in the library were also selected based on educational criteria. A second difference is the openness. Many libraries lock their samples for safety issues but we decided to allow all materials to be free to touch, trusting in everyone's responsibility to keep it neat and secure."

Which exhibitions are currently on show?

EK: "We now showcase a special exhibition about cork. The next exhibition will be on plexiglas, prepared by our sponsor Evonik."

Dr. Elvin Karana (EK) is project leader of the 'Made Of..' library.

VEGETAL IVORY



The tagua nut, a.k.a. "vegetable ivory", earned its name from its ivory-like color and texture. The nut offers a plant-based alternative to elephants being killed for their ivory.
» www.itsnoteasybeinggreen.net for the 'Made Of..' library

VISIT

25 - 27 January 2012
MATERIAL XPERIENCE 2012 | ROTTERDAM (NL)
Annual event with materials for architecture and design
» www.materialxperience.nl

7 - 12 February 2012
MUNICH CREATIVE BUSINESS WEEK | MUNICH (DE)
New design week for future focused trends in design and innovation
» www.mcbw.de

8 March 2012
C2C CAFÉ | AMSTERDAM (NL)
(Public) seminar focused on Cradle to Cradle design and architecture
» www.tinyurl.com/c2c-cafe

23 - 27 April 2012
MATERIALS CAFÉ 2012 | HANOVER (DE)
Special show with an exhibition on sustainable materials and design
» www.hannovermesse.de/en/materialscafe

Submit events and competitions to: newsletter@materialstories.com

GOLDEN GRASS



Golden grass is the popular name of "Syngonanthus nitens", a wild flowering plant native to central Brazil. The uniqueness of this flowering plant lies in its innate, shiny golden sheen.
» www.itsnoteasybeinggreen.net for the 'Made Of..' library

MADE OF..



Sustainable materials from the It's Not Easy Being Green project are now on show at the 'Made of..' material library that opened its doors at the Delft University of Technology this January!
» www.io.tudelft.nl/madeof

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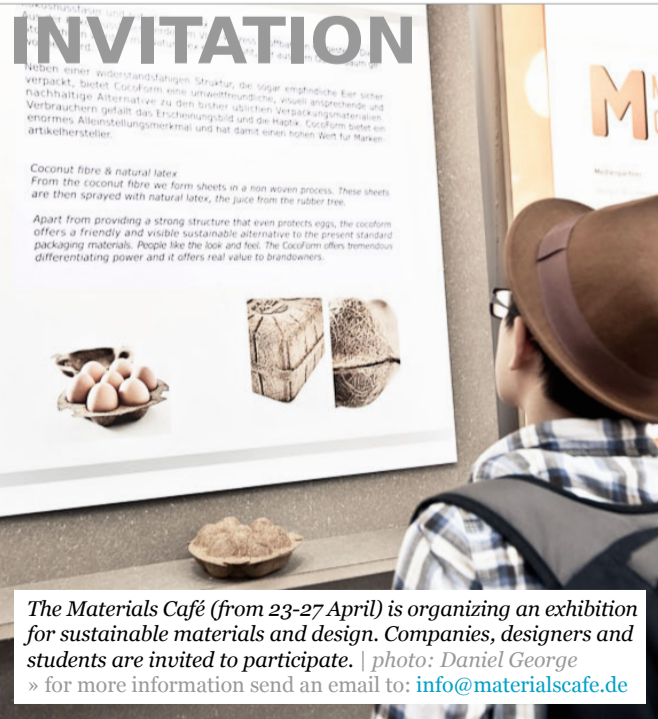
KEY FACTS

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INVITATION



With a water-resistant structure, the Cocoform offers a sustainable alternative to the present standard packaging materials. People like the look and feel. The Cocoform offers tremendous differentiating power and it offers real value to brandowners.



The Materials Café (from 23-27 April) is organizing an exhibition for sustainable materials and design. Companies, designers and students are invited to participate. | photo: Daniel George
» for more information send an email to: info@materialscafe.de

All continents except Antarctica and Europe have a native bamboo. Bamboo has been measured growing more than 47 inches in a 24-hour period.

Bamboo is the favorite food of elephants and buffalos in India, pandas in China and giant gorillas in Africa.



2 billion people make a living from bamboo cultivation and processing worldwide