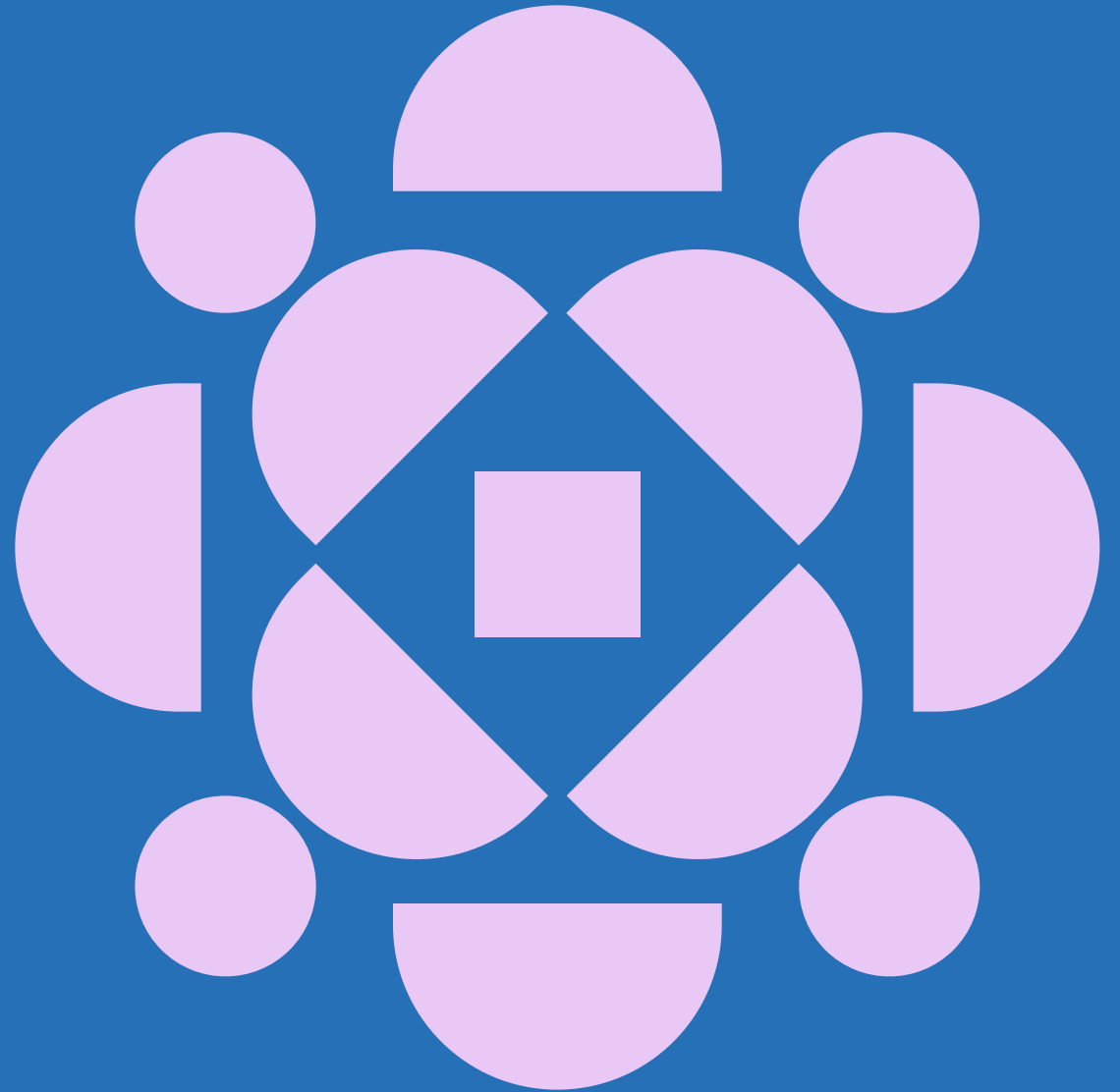


Circular Economy Leaders Consortium Facility Tour RHPL

April 2026
Jordan Lynam
Emma Kristensen

Richmond Hill
Public Library



Library of Things

- August 2024 - launched Library of Things and integrated skills-based programming with funding from the York Region's Circular Economies team
- Preparation included
 - Researching practices at other libraries
 - Community survey gauging interest in specific types of items
 - Sourcing items and shelving



Community Survey

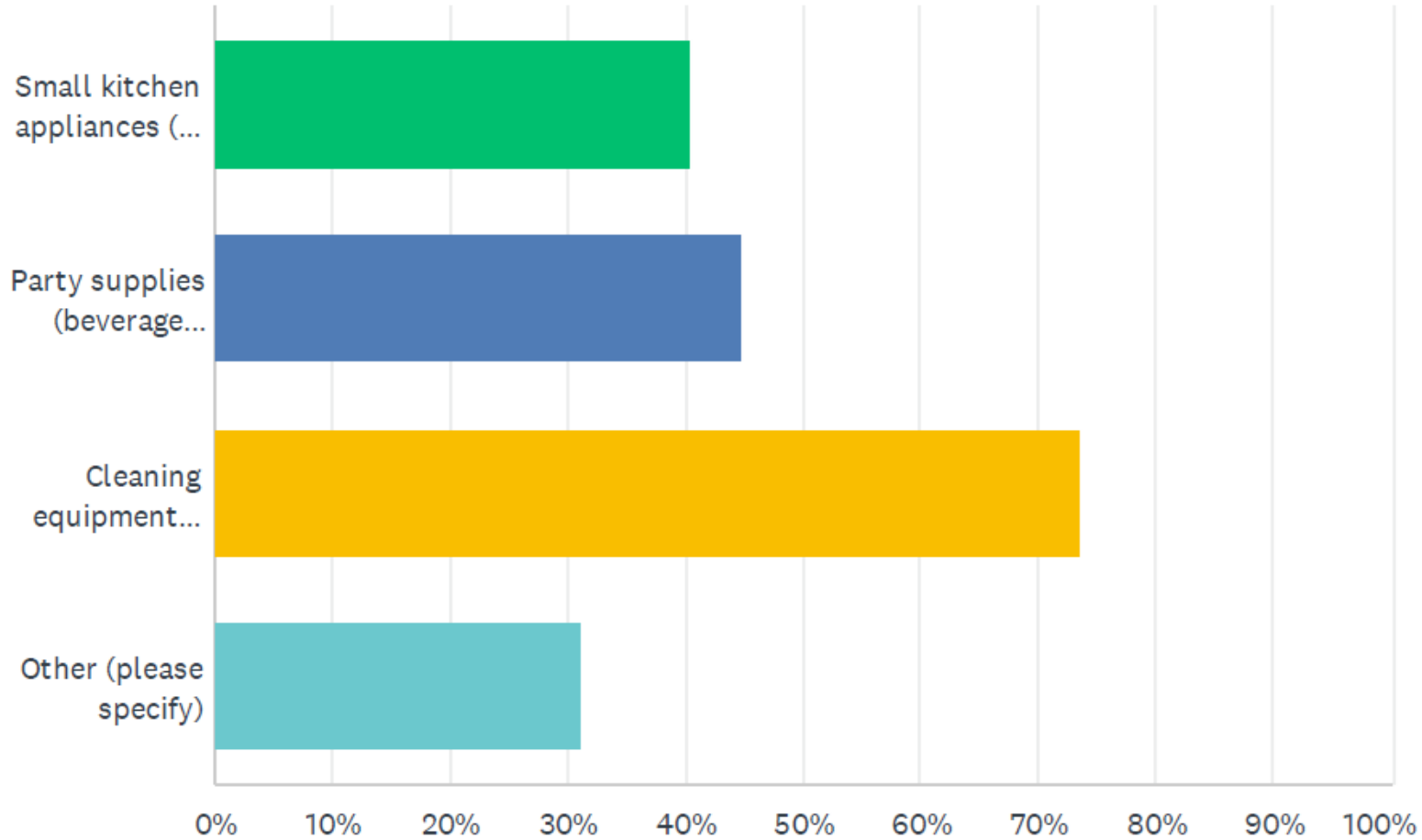
- March 20 - April 19, 2023
- 205 responses

Q3 Why would you use the Library of Things? Please check all that apply.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
To save money	84.39%	173
Environmental reasons	65.37%	134
To learn something new	61.95%	127
To access items I don't need on a regular basis	95.61%	196
To try an item before buying it	69.27%	142
I wouldn't use it	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	3.90%	8
Total Respondents: 205		

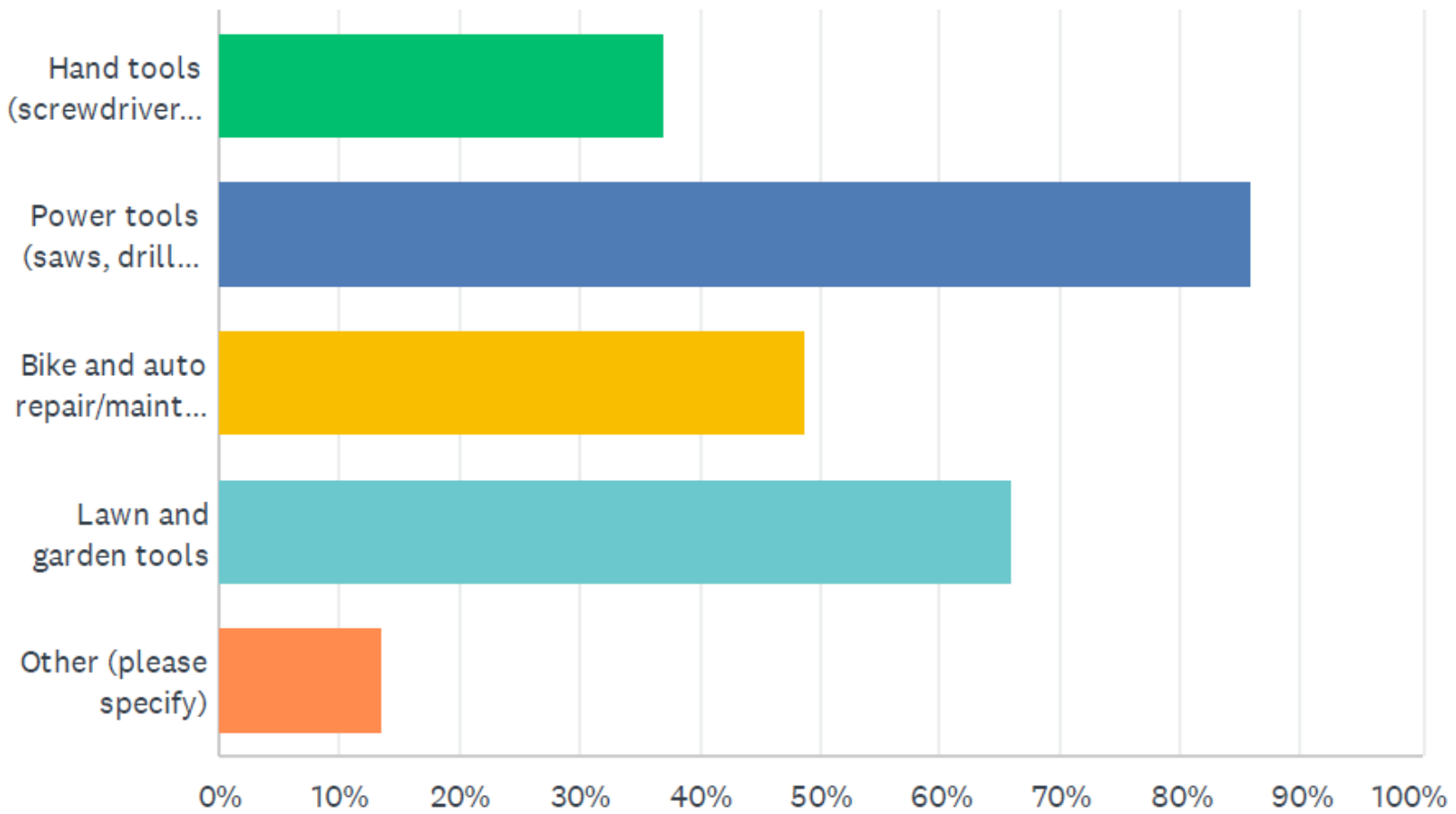
Q4 What types of household items would you be interested in borrowing from the Library of Things? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 0



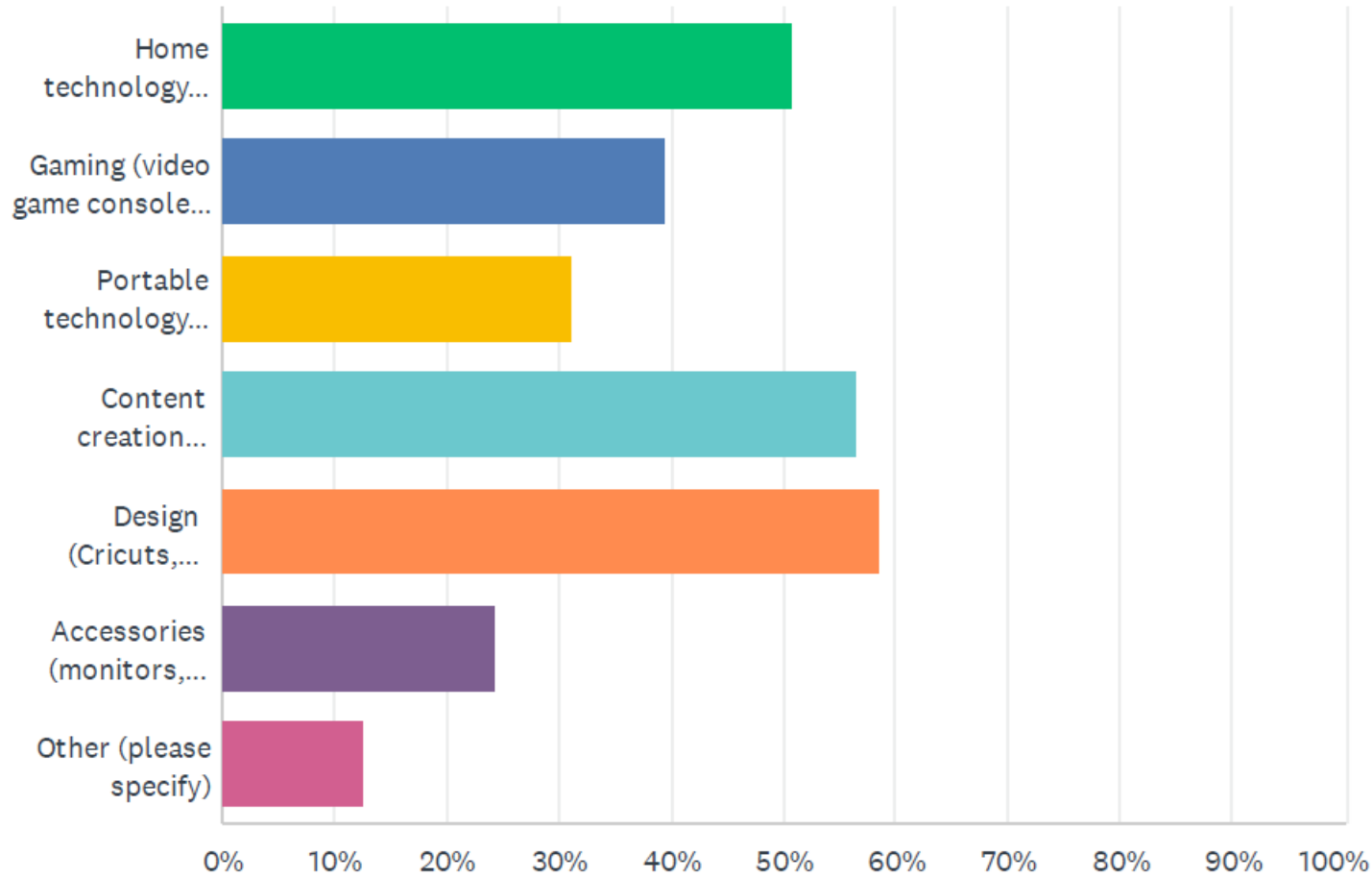
Q5 What types of tools would you be interested in borrowing from the Library of Things? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 0



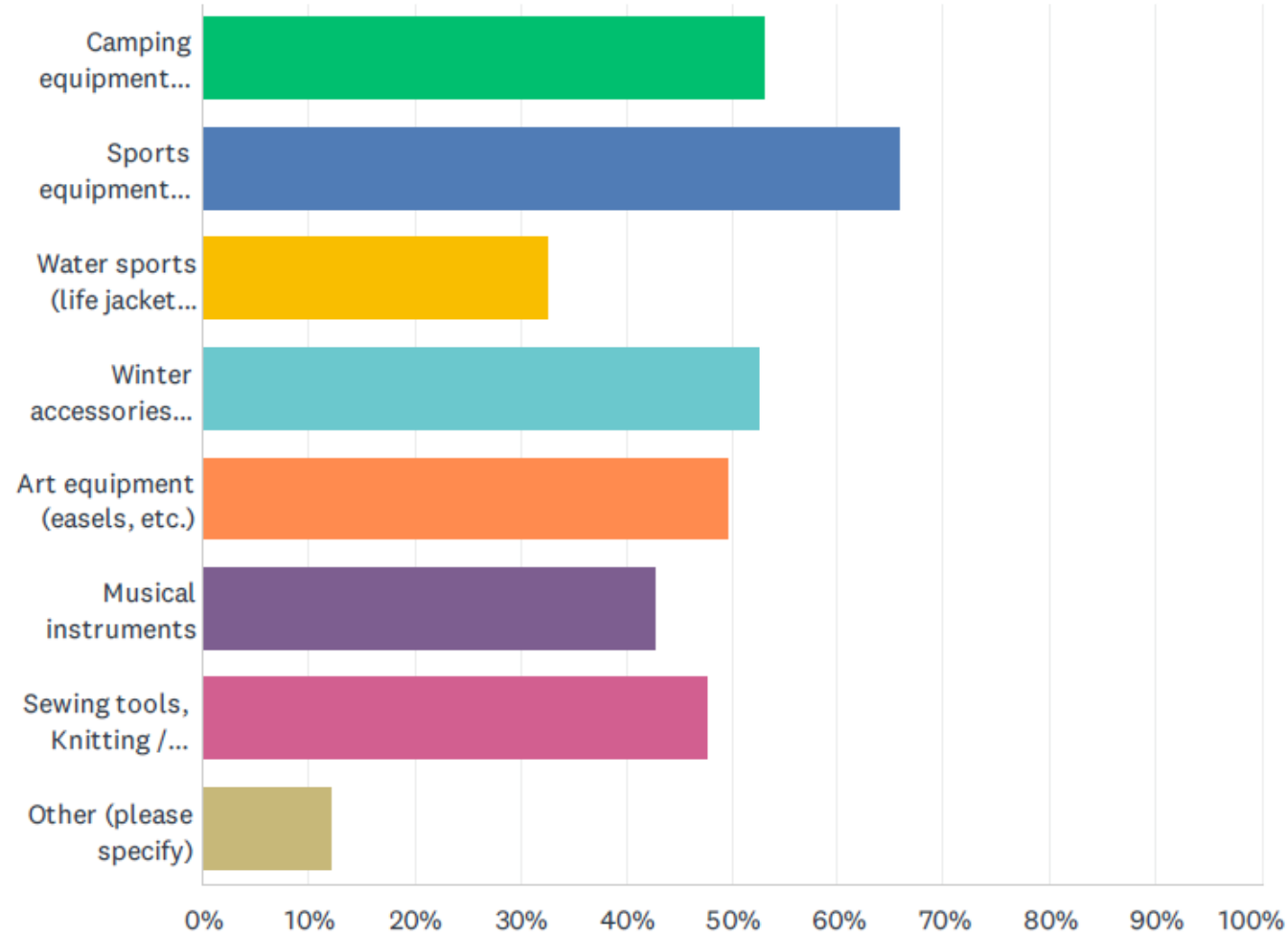
Q6 What types of technology would you be interested in borrowing from the Library of Things? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 0



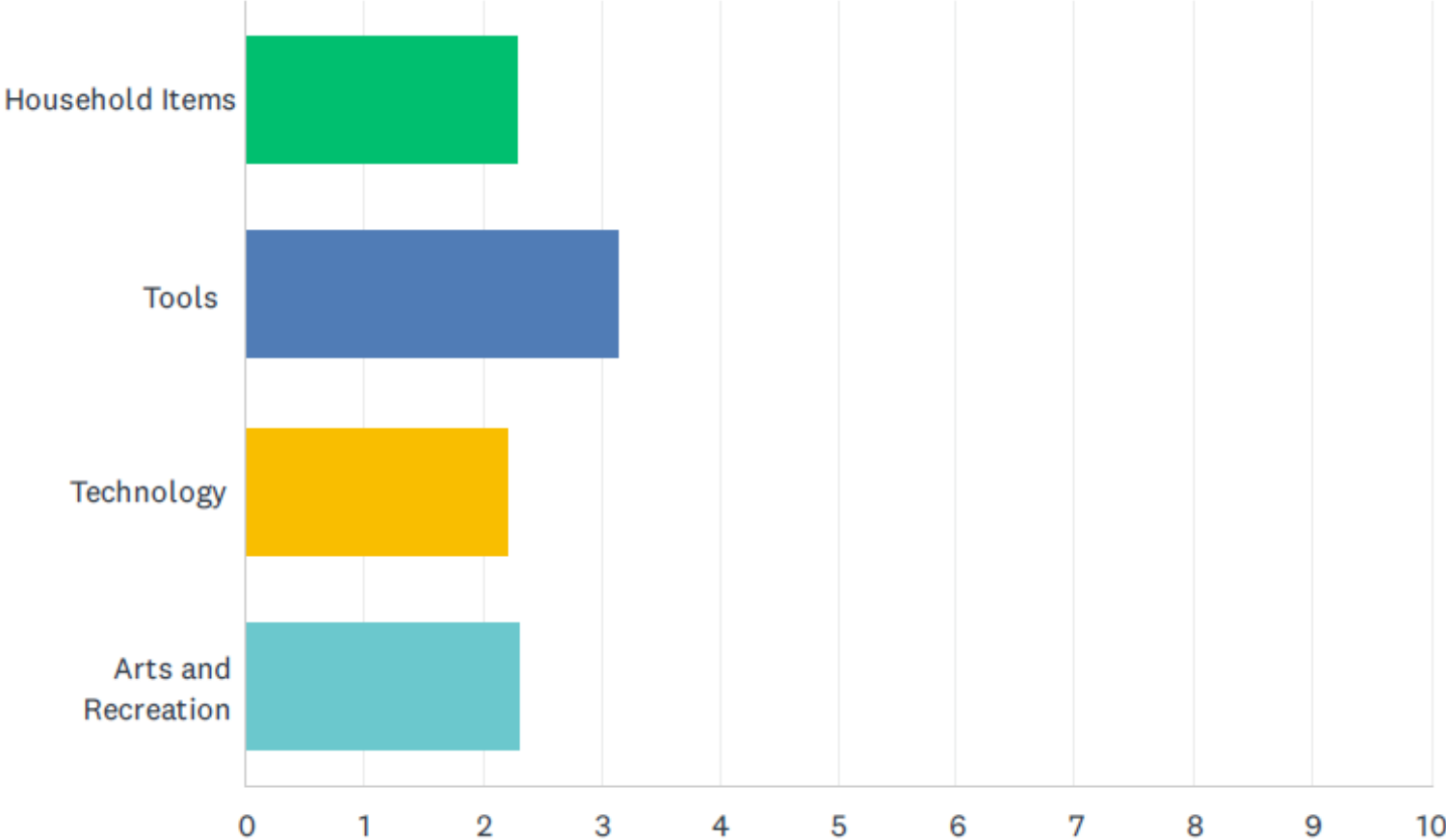
Q7 What types of arts and recreation items would you be interested in borrowing from the Library of Things? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 0



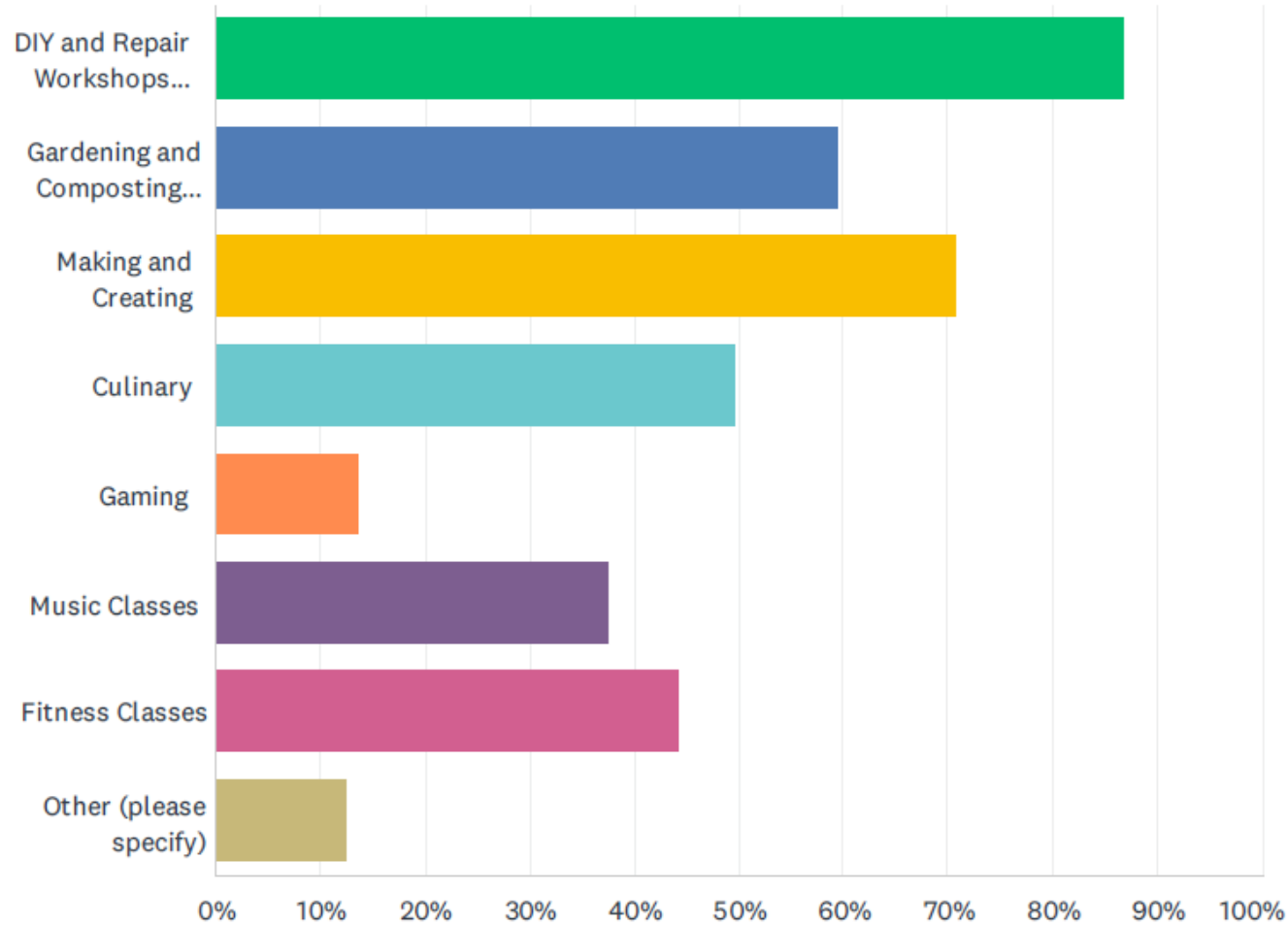
Q8 Which category of item would you be most likely to borrow from? Please rank with 1 being most likely and 4 least likely.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 0



Q10 What types of related programming would you be interested in? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 0



Strategic Alignment

Our Mission

We offer you knowledge, experiences, and resources that enable you to grow the capabilities you need to respond to personal, local, national, and global challenges, trends and interests.

Strategic Objective: Customer and Mission-Focused Content

Evolve curated offerings to always be relevant to our community through a future-ready approach.



Collections

- Backpack Kits
- Board Games
- Experience Passes
- Gardening
- Hobbies & Crafts
- Kitchen
- Outdoors
- Sports & Recreation

- STEAM & Learning Kits
- Technology & Gaming Consoles
- Tools & Small Appliances



Programs

- City of Richmond Hill Earth Day Event
- Community Threads
- Gardening Programs
- Mending and Sewing Workshops
- Miskwaadesi Studio Workshops
- Repair Café
- Seedy Saturday
- Tech Donation Drive



Canoe Medicine Garden

- Launched by Miskwaadesi Studio in partnership with the City of Richmond Hill (one of four across the city)
- Prairie Sage and Sweetgrass
- “These gardens will serve as living classrooms and cultural gathering spaces. They are also vibrant pollinator habitats, supporting bees, butterflies, and other essential species that sustain healthy ecosystems, while promoting sustainable Indigenous medicine practices rooted in respect for the land.” - Miskwaadesi Studio



Learnings & Challenges

- Wait times for collection items
- Lending seasonal items
- Risk of lending items
- Storage, space, and layout for collections & programs
- Importance of great program partners



Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner

Pick Up and Return at Central Branch Service Desk

★★★★☆ (2 ratings) ☆☆☆☆☆ Rate this ▾

🔧 Tool

All copies in use
3 copies 80 on hold

[Availability by location >](#)

Online resource
[Access online resource >](#)
[Click here for more information >](#)

Place hold

🔖 For Later ▾



Measuring Success - Collections

2025

329 users

1,173 circulations & renewals

169 items

Most Popular Items

MiFi xPro 56 mobile hotspot

HappyLight

CO2 monitor

Nature explorer kits

Nintendo Switch

Adults' birdwatching kit

Carpet and upholstery cleaner

JBL Clip 4 wireless speaker

PlayStation 5

Inspiroy 2 drawing tablet

Measuring Success - Programs

2025

27 programs

775 participants

Survey Feedback

“Impressed with the quality of speakers”

“This was very useful. I started my radish microgreens this morning.”

“Very informative and skilled presenter and facilitators. Would like more of this type of mending, clothes recycling workshops.”

Thank you!

Richmond Hill Public Library
1 Atkinson St
Richmond Hill, ON
L4C 0H5

April 2026
rhpl.ca

