

Search, Discover, Discuss

Subject: World Cultures

Grade Level: 6th

Rationale or Purpose:

To learn about Gutenberg's invention, students will search the topics in **The Invention** theme to answer Search and Discuss worksheet questions. Students will discuss their most interesting findings and what these findings tell them about society and technology in the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance period.

Materials:

Internet access

Search and Discover Worksheet

Lesson Duration: One class period.

Objectives: World Cultures 113.22

(2 B) describe the influence of individual or group achievement on selected historical society

(20 A) give examples of technological innovations that have shaped the world

Activity:

Step 1: Introduce "The Invention"

To introduce the activity, give students an overview Gutenberg's life after reading the material on the **Gutenberg Bible** page titled, *Who was Johann Gutenberg and what do we know about him?*

<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/education/modules/gutenberg>

Step 2: Search and Discover

Have students work individually or in pairs at computers to find the items needed to complete the *Search and Discover Worksheet*. Explain that the answers can all be found on the **Gutenberg Education Module** in **The Invention** section.

<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/education/modules/gutenberg/invention>

Step 3: Concluding Discussion

Allowing the students to articulate what they found most interesting will help them synthesize what they have learned about Gutenberg, his invention, society, and technology of the period. Give students an opportunity to share what they learned by asking them what they found most interesting, then building on those interests, guide the discussion into the societal and historical implications.

Student Product:

The completed *Search and Discover Worksheet*

Extension:

Have students select one of the three styles of illumination found in the Ransom Center Gutenberg Bible and illuminate the first letter of their name in that style.

<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/exhibitions/education/modules/gutenberg/invention/illuminations>

Activity by:

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Search and Discover Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Adapting Technology

What sort of machine did Gutenberg adapt to print his Bibles? _____

What is movable type? _____

Woodblock printing was invented in the _____ century in _____.

The Gutenberg Bible is printed in what language? _____

Papermaking

Manuscripts written on parchment or vellum are actually written on _____.

What have scholars found in the paper of Ransom Center Gutenberg Bible that tells them the paper is from several paper mills in Northern Italy? _____

Gutenberg's Print Shop

Gutenberg used a font called _____ which was designed to mimic _____.

Approximately how many pieces of type were needed to print one page of the Bible? _____

What kinds of pieces of type were needed to print a page? _____

Buying the Book

Did buyers of the Gutenberg Bible receive a finished book? _____

What were the three tasks needed to complete the Bible? _____

Familiar Format

In the first illustration, which Bible is larger and why was the larger format important?

Gutenberg printed an estimated edition of _____ Bibles.

Illuminations and Rubrications

How were books made before printing? _____

What are the colorful hand painted decorations called that often include gold or silver? _____

Often written in red ink, these handwritten titles, chapter headings, and instructions added after printing are called _____.

Marginalia

What is the unusual notation scratched in the gold of the illuminated H in the Ransom Center Bible? _____

What symbol was used in Medieval Bibles to draw attention to certain passages? _____

Oops

What appears in the Ransom Center Bible that does not appear in any other copy of the Gutenberg Bible? _____

How was the illuminated P at the beginning of Judges repaired? _____

What is underneath the repair? _____