

Project

Try Styrofoam Printing

Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press during the Renaissance. Before this invention, books were made by hand. The text was copied word by word. The printing press made the creation and distribution of books much easier, so more people could have access to books and read them. In this activity, you'll try your own method of printing.

- **Cut a Styrofoam sheet into a small square or circle shape, perhaps about 4 to 5 inches in size—it doesn't need to be perfect!**
- **Using a pencil, draw a design into the cut piece of Styrofoam.** You'll want to press down hard but don't rip through it.
- **Cover the surface where you are working with newspaper.** Pour some ink onto a plate or into an aluminum paint tray.
- **Roll a mini paint roller lightly though the ink.** Then roll the inked roller over your Styrofoam design.
- **Place the inked Styrofoam onto a piece of paper.** Make sure to push down lightly so that the whole design is pressed into the paper.
- **Remove the Styrofoam and admire your new print work.** Can you think of ways to make your printing go faster? How can you be neater? Are there other ways you can improve the process?

WONDER WHY?

Do you find that you have less time to be creative when there is lots of hard work to do? Does hard work ever fuel creativity in your experience?