

***Johann Gutenberg and the Amazing Printing Press*** by Bruce Koscielniak. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2003.

**Literature Annotation:** Through reading this book, children learn the incredible story of Johann Gutenberg and the history of early printing and publishing, including the printing achievements of the Chinese and Koreans. The text describes bookmaking and explains the impact of Gutenberg's invention.

**Grade Level:** 6<sup>th</sup>

**Duration:** 2-3 class periods

### **Maryland State Curriculum**

#### ***Economics***

- 4.A.3.a Give examples of how technology changed consumption and provided greater access to goods and services
- 4.A.3.b Examine why technology has changed production such as the development of the printing press

#### ***College and Career Ready Standards for Reading Informational Text***

- RI1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- RI3 Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text
- RI4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.

**Objectives:** Students will be able to...

- describe life in Europe before and after the development of the printing press.
- identify the importance of the printing press to World History.

#### **Vocabulary**

**capital resources:** the goods that are manufactured and constructed by people and used to produce other goods and services, including but not limited to factories, warehouses, roads, bridges, machinery, ports, dams, and tools (money is not a capital resource).

**human resources:** the health, strength, talents, education and skills that humans can use to produce goods and services.

**illuminated manuscript:** book written by hand, decorated with paintings and ornaments of different kinds. The word 'illuminated' comes from a usage of the Latin word *illuminare* in connection with oratory or prose style, where it means 'adorn'.

**natural resources:** the renewable, and nonrenewable gifts of nature that can be used to produce goods and services, including but not limited to land, water, animals, minerals, trees, climate, soil, fire, seeds, grain and fruits.

**Technology:** skills, methods, tools, machines and other things used to perform activities. Technology changes over time and affects the way we live, work, and play.

## Materials

Resource 1: *Anticipation Guide*

Resource 1b: *Anticipation Guide: The Printing Press*

Resource 2: *The Meeting of Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere*

Resource 3: *Illuminated Manuscript Directions*

Resource 4: *The History of Printing*

## Additional Resources

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

*Teaching Gutenberg* Website from the University of Texas

## Motivation

Distribute Resource 1: *Anticipation Guide: The Printing Press*. Have students read the statements and complete the “Before Reading” column.

## Development

1. Explain to students that they are going to be learning about an important invention -- the printing press. Tell them to take notes on their anticipation guide as you read *Johann Gutenberg and the Amazing Printing Press*.
2. After reading, have students complete the “After Reading” column of their anticipation guide. Discuss. (An answer key is provided on Resource 1b.)
3. Re-visit the “Monks did the copy work for books that were illustrated and called ‘illuminated manuscripts’ ” statement from the anticipation guide. Display Resource 2: *The Meeting of Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere*. Explain to students that this is an example of an illuminated manuscript.
4. Break students into 5 groups. Distribute Resource 3: *Illuminated Manuscript Directions*. Assign each group one of the following topics:
  - *The Development of Printing in Asia*
  - *Printing in Europe before Gutenberg*
  - *Gutenberg and his invention*
  - *Printing in Europe after Gutenberg*
  - *Impact of the Printing Press*

Tell them that they are going to be working in a group to create a poster board sized page of an illuminated manuscript. Discuss requirements. Instruct them to use various resources (Internet, textbook, etc.) to complete this assignment.

5. After all groups have finished, distribute Resource 4: *The History of Printing*. Conduct a gallery walk of the posters. Instruct students to complete the graphic organizer as they view each poster.

## **Assessment**

Have students read the following quote:

*In our time, thanks to the talent and industry of those from the Rhine (Germany), books have emerged in lavish numbers. A book that once would've belonged only to the rich -- nay, to a king -- can now be seen under a modest roof. ... There is nothing now a days that our children ... fail to know.*

-Sebastian Brant, 1500

Using information from this lesson and the quote above, write a Brief Constructed Response that responds to the following question:

*Was the printing press the most important invention ever created? How did it change the world? Use details and examples to support your answer.*

### **Anticipation Guide**

**Before Reading:** Read the statement. In the *Before Reading* column, circle whether you think the statement is true or false.

**After Reading:** Re-read the statement. In the *After Reading* column circle whether the statement was true or false. If it was false, rewrite the statement so that it is true.

<b>Before Reading</b>			<b>After Reading</b>	
True	False	The Chinese developed the process of printing.	True	False
True	False	The Japanese first used moveable metal characters for printing in the 1200's.	True	False
True	False	A revival of learning in Europe during the 1400's led to a demand for more books.	True	False
True	False	The term Gothic comes from the style of clothing worn in Europe.	True	False
True	False	Monks did the copy work for books that were illustrated and called Illuminated Manuscripts.	True	False
True	False	Parchment is made from the bark of trees.	True	False
True	False	Papermaking was developed in China and came to Europe by way of the Silk Route.	True	False
True	False	In 1400's Europe, most people could not read.	True	False
True	False	Johann Gutenberg created the first printing press with moveable type.	True	False

**Anticipation Guide Answer Key**

<b>Before Reading</b>			<b>After Reading</b>	
True	False	The Chinese developed the process of printing.	<b>True</b>	False
True	False	The <del>Japanese</del> <b>Koreans</b> first used moveable metal characters for printing in the 1200's.	True	<b>False</b>
True	False	A revival of learning in Europe during the 1400's led to a demand for more books.	<b>True</b>	False
True	False	The term Gothic comes from the style of <del>clothing</del> <b>architecture</b> in Europe.	True	<b>False</b>
True	False	Monks did the copy work for books that were illustrated and called Illuminated Manuscripts.	<b>True</b>	False
True	False	Parchment is made from the <del>bark of trees</del> <b>animal skins</b> .	True	<b>False</b>
True	False	Papermaking was developed in China and came to Europe by way of the Silk Route.	<b>True</b>	False
True	False	In 1400's Europe, most people could not read.	<b>True</b>	False
True	False	Johann Gutenberg created the first printing press with moveable type.	<b>True</b>	False

**The Meeting of Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere  
France, Circa 1300**



<http://www.collectbritain.co.uk/personalisation/object.cfm?uid=011ROY000020D04U00001000&largeimage=1#largeimage>

## ***Illuminated Manuscript Directions***

An **Illuminated Manuscript** is a book written by hand, decorated with paintings and ornaments of different kinds. The word 'illuminated' comes from a usage of the Latin word *illuminare* in connection with oratory or prose style, where it means 'adorn.'



**Assignment:** Create a poster-board sized page of an **Illuminated Manuscript** that will tell your classmates important information about your assigned topic. As you create your poster, be sure to include information about:

- Time Period
- Location
- Use of Productive Resources (Human, Natural, and Capital)

Our topic is:

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***The History of Printing***

	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Use of Productive Resources</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
<b>The Development of Printing in Asia</b>				
<b>Printing in Europe Before Gutenberg</b>				
<b>Gutenberg and his Invention</b>				
<b>Printing in Europe After Gutenberg</b>				
<b>Impact of the Printing Press</b>				