PNC Tinkering for Tots

October 2021 – June 2022,
2nd Tuesday of the Month, 10 AM – Noon

Little learners get a head full of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) with our contactless special programming. Designed for curious preschoolers, our inspired yet playful activities focus on building an innovative mindset through storytelling, artifact exploration and take-home STEAM activities.

PNC Tinkering for Tots: What are we learning about in January?

Habit of the month:

STAY CURIOUS

Description: Keep asking questions like "How?" and "Why?" Ask how you can help solve a problem. Or what is a new way to do something?

Story: What are we reading?

Title: *Inventors Who Changed the World*
Author: Heidi Poelman

Why we picked this book: The inventors in this book are not all the most common names, but their contributions have had great impact on the world. We want our littlest learners to be inspired to think of themselves as inventors and innovators, to see themselves in the stories of these great inventors and to stay curious.

Questions you can ask your young learner:
What were some of the inventions the book showed us? What was your favorite invention? What different kinds of people were the inventors? Who can be an inventor? If you were an inventor, what would you invent?

Artifact of the day: Where are we going?

Name:
George Washington Carver's Microscope

Location:
Agriculture and the Environment

Short description: Growing cotton had worn out the soil in the American South by 1900, so George Washington Carver developed crops such as peanuts that would put nutrients back in the soil and could be sold for all kinds of uses. Carver stayed curious to find ways to help farmers.

Questions you can ask your young learner:
What does a microscope help us see? What would you use a microscope to look at? George Washington Carver used this microscope to find all kinds of uses for peanuts so farmers could refresh their soil by planting peanuts instead of cotton.

What to see next:
Foster's Printing Press, 1852-1857
Location: *Made in America Manufacturing*
Short description: This press works just the opposite of most printing presses. Instead of pressing the image or words down onto paper, this press brings the inked image or words up to the paper. Like all presses, it requires pressure to hold the paper to the inked plate to transfer the image. Foster's press is another example of staying curious and trying a new way to do something.

Declaration of Independence
Location: *With Liberty and Justice for All*
Short description: This is one of 200 copies of the Declaration of Independence made in 1820. It is a list of reasons why the people living in America thought they should be their own country and separate from Great Britain. Those who signed it felt they could find a better way to run their own country.

Take Home STEAM Activity: What are we doing?

Title: Design Your Own Printing Stamps

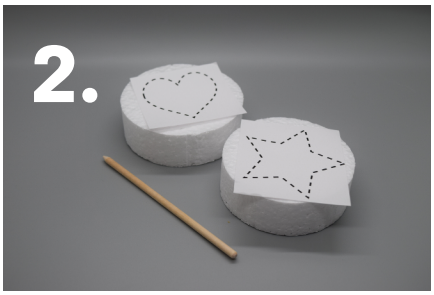
Materials:
- Designs to trace
- Foam circles
- Wood stylus
- Ink pad

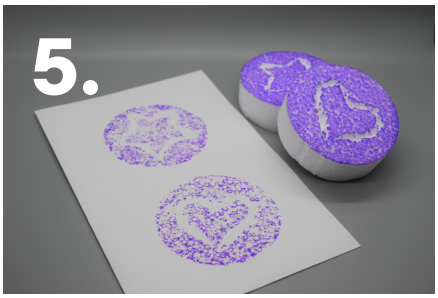
Take Home STEAM Activity: Design Your Own Printing Stamps

Materials:

- Designs to trace
- Foam circles
- Wood stylus
- Ink pad

Directions:





1. Using your own scissors, cut out the designs to trace.

2. Place designs on the foam circles.

3. Using the wood stylus, trace around the designs, pressing hard enough to imprint them on the foam circles.

4. Once traced, use the stylus to make the imprints deeper if necessary.

5. Press designs lightly into the ink pad and press the inked side onto a piece of paper or your chosen surface. You may need to press the stamp into the ink a few times to make sure the whole surface is covered.

Coloring Sheet