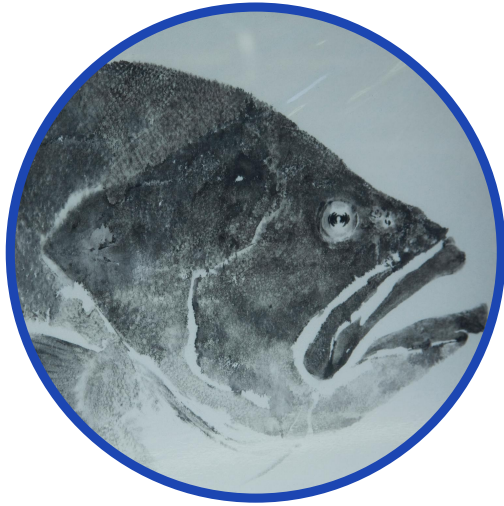




# GYOTAKU PRINTING



A **Gyotaku** print is a way that Japanese fishermen documented their catches. They would cover the fish with ink, and press the fish onto a piece of paper or cloth. What was left was a near-perfect impression of the fish - a record of what it looked like and how large it was. Sometimes the fisherman would document where and when it was caught too.

## STEP BY STEP:

### ACTIVITY:

Student will create a Gyotaku print using Swedish Fish.

### SUPPLIES:

- Swedish Fish
- Acrylic Paint
- Brayer
- Paper
- Inking Tray
- Wet Wipes

1. Gather your supplies: Swedish fish, brayer, inking tray, acrylic paint, wet wipes, paper.
2. Arrange your supplies carefully. You will need to work quickly. Have your inking tray, brayer and paint on your dominant hand side. Have your Swedish fish and paper next to your tray.
3. Put a small (nickel coin size) spot of acrylic paint on your inking tray.
4. Roll and lift, roll and lift your brayer through the paint to cover your brayer with paint. If you just roll back and forth, your paint will dry out too quickly and it will not spread as evenly. You can even turn your inking tray sideways and roll and lift, roll and lift that way as well.
5. **This is where you need to work kind of quickly, but not sloppy. You do not want your paint to dry before you have a chance to print it.**
6. Hold your Swedish fish in one hand, bumpy side up, and roll your paint evenly onto it to cover the whole fish.
7. Carefully set your brayer down in your tray and use both hands to place your block onto your paper and press it down.
8. Quickly use both hands to place your fish onto your paper and press it down.
9. Peel your Swedish fish up and see your print!
10. Repeat steps 3-10.
11. Clean up your whole workspace. Wash and save your tools carefully so you can keep using them for more prints.



# PHOTO TUTORIAL

## STEP 1:

Gather your supplies: Swedish fish, brayer, inking tray, acrylic paint, wet wipes, paper.



## STEP 2:

Arrange your supplies carefully. You will need to work quickly. Have your inking tray, brayer and paint on your dominant hand side. Have your Swedish fish and paper next to your tray.



## STEP 3:

Put a small (nickel coin size) spot of acrylic paint on your inking tray.



## STEP 4:

Roll and lift, roll and lift your brayer through the paint to cover your brayer with paint. If you just roll back and forth, your paint will dry out too quickly and it will not spread as evenly. You can even turn your inking tray sideways and roll and lift, roll and lift that way as well.





# PHOTO TUTORIAL

## STEP 5:

This is where you need to work kind of quickly, but not sloppy. You do not want your paint to dry before you have a chance to print it.



## STEP 6:

Hold your Swedish fish in one hand, bumpy side up, and roll your paint evenly onto it to cover the whole fish.



## STEP 7:

Carefully set your brayer down in your tray and use both hands to place your block onto your paper and press it down.



## STEP 8:

Quickly use both hands to place your fish onto your paper and press it down.





# PHOTO TUTORIAL

## STEP 9:

Peel your Swedish fish up and see your print!



## STEP 10:

Repeat steps 3-10. Use only 1 color of paint and 4 papers today.



## STEP 12:

Clean up your whole workspace. Wash and save your tools carefully so you can keep using them for more prints.

