

Literacy Homework



Benjamin Franklin



Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 17th, (12)
1706. Massachusetts was then one of the thirteen American colonies that (23)
belonged to England. Benjamin had 17 brothers and sisters! (32)

Benjamin began school when he was eight years old. He was an excellent (45)
reader, and loved to write. When he was twelve, his father put him to work in a (62)
print shop owned by his uncle, James. When he was twenty-two, he set up his (78)
own print shop and published a newspaper, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. (88)

Franklin became well known for his public service, inventions and (98)
experiments. He helped set up Philadelphia's first fire and police department. (109)
He also helped start the first lending library. He invented numerous things, such (122)
as bifocal glasses and the Franklin Stove. In one famous experiment using a kite, (136)
a key and lightning, Franklin proved that lightning is electricity. (146)

Franklin is perhaps best known for helping write the Declaration of (157)
Independence, and later helped form the U.S. Constitution. Franklin will always (168)
be remembered as a great American and one of our countries "Founding Fathers." (181)

Fluency & Comprehension - Please answer each question in *complete sentences*.

1) Complete five 1 minute reads, and record your words per minute score.

Read #1: _____ Read #2: _____ Read #3: _____ Read #4: _____ Read #5: _____

2) Where did Benjamin Franklin go to work when he was twelve?

3) What was the name of the newspaper he published?

4) What were some of the things he invented?

5) What famous documents did Franklin help write?

Comprehension Common Questions

Name _____

1) What **genre** is this passage?

Fiction or
Non-Fiction?

Traditional Literature Realistic Fiction Science Fiction Historical Fiction Informational Biography Poetry Mystery Fantasy Folktale

2) What **point of view** is this passage?

First Person

Second Person

Third Person

(The author says "I" a lot)

(The author says "you" a lot)

(The author says "he, she or they" a lot)

3) What was the **author's purpose** for writing this passage?

Inform (Facts)

Persuade (To change your mind)

Entertain (Fun)

Explain (How to...)

4) What is the **setting** of this passage? Where does it take place?

5) Write a *complete sentence* stating the **main idea** or topic of this passage.

6) If possible, list a **main character**. List *one word* that could describe that character.

Character:

Adjectives:

7) If possible, list one **contraction** (ex: I am = I'm) and one **compound** word (ex: back + pack = backpack).

Contraction:

Compound:

8) If possible, list one **two-syllable** word, and one **three-syllable** word.

Two-syllable:

Three-syllable:

9) What **event** happened first in this passage?

10) What **event** happened last in this passage?
