Benjamin Franklin Lesson Plan

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Grade: 3rd

Lesson: “Benjamin Franklin Invention Riddles”

Materials:

- Access to internet to research Benjamin Franklin’s inventions
- Index cards
- Construction paper

Introduction:

As a class research Benjamin Franklin’s inventions. Discuss the inventions and what problem the inventions solved.

Procedure:

- List Benjamin Franklin’s inventions. (Bifocals, Franklin stove, lightening rod, Glass Armonica, rocking chair, catheter, long arm, busybody, odometer, swim fins, library chair, etc.)
- Each student will pick a different invention. They should not tell each other the invention. They will create a riddle for their invention.
- The riddle should have the inventor, when it was invented, and at least three clues that would help others guess what the invention is. They will write the riddle on a large index card.
- Take a piece of construction paper and fold it in half. Glue the index card on the top. The inside will have a pop-up of the invention that the student picked.
Conclusion:

Teacher will read the different riddles and the class will try to figure out which Ben Franklin invention it is. Discuss which clues help them figure out the riddles.

Follow-up Questions and Activities:

1. What was your favorite Benjamin Franklin invention? Why?

2. How did Benjamin Franklin get his ideas for his inventions?

3. How can you use Benjamin Franklin’s ideas for his inventions, to help you create your own invention? What problems do you have that might lead to an invention?

4. **Game:** Put a label of a Benjamin Franklin invention on the back of every student. They have to go around and ask each other yes or no questions to try to figure out what invention is on their back. They need to have clues before they can just ask their classmates the name of an invention.