Lesson: Inventions and their impact on economy and society in the past and present.

Alabama Social Studies Course of Study:

5.) Describe the early colonization of North America and reasons for settlement in the Northern, Middle, and Southern colonies.
   - Identifying major leaders, economic impact, and social changes in colonial society
Objective: After reading the book, Now and Ben by Gene Barretta, fifth grade students will be able to realize the economic impact and social changes that Benjamin Franklin and other American inventors made on colonial America.

Procedure:
1. Read the book, Now and Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin, aloud to students. Discuss the many inventions that he was responsible for developing and the impact they have on our lives even today.
2. Ask students to research the life and times of Ben Franklin and other great inventors of that era and relate the inventions to the economic development of that time in which they were created and show (if any) the impact that the inventions still have on present day economy and society today. For ex. Alexander G. Bell and the telephone; Eli Whitney and the cotton gin.
3. Make a timeline of the many inventions researched by all class members and post the time line on the bulletin board for reference use.

Evaluation:
Students will be given a criteria sheet to guide their research. The same criteria will be used as an assessment when the project is due. Students will asked to present their research orally before the class.

Comments:
Thank you again for a fabulous, power-packed week of extraordinary experiences and educational opportunities. I would highly recommend this institute to anyone interested in the rich history that Philadelphia has to offer. Thanks again.

Debbie 😊