Grade Level: 6
Time: 2 class periods
Goal: Students will be able to identify and explain leadership strategies used by Franklin.

Materials: attached worksheet, internet access, projector, and an age appropriate biography of Franklin

http://franklinpapers.org
- letters to Vergennes: Dec. 23, 1776, Jan. 5, 1777, Dec. 8, 1777
- speech in the convention on the constitution, Sept. 17, 1787
- Proposed Article for Peace Treaty, Nov. 29, 1782
- construction of meeting house, autobiography part 11, “In 1739, arrived among us…”

http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/wm/66.2/houston.html
- broadside to acquire horses and wagons for General Braddock

www.amphilsoc.org/library/gallery/
- fur cap picture

www.history.org
- join or die cartoon

Franklin: Silence Dogood, The Busy-Body, and Early Writings, p. 239-242
- On Protection of Towns from Fire

These biographies, among others, are available at the Cincinnati Public Library:
- American Patriot: Benjamin Franklin by Michael Burgan
- Benjamin Franklin by Cassie Mayer
- Benjamin Franklin by Leni Donlan
- Ben Franklin: printer, author, inventor, politician by Pamela Rushby
Procedure:
- Write the first question from the worksheet on the board. Explain that as students find out more about Franklin, they should collect the leadership strategies he used in their notebook.

- Read a biography of Franklin aloud to students. Stop several times to allow students to meet with a partner and add leadership strategies to their notebooks. After working with a partner, invite students to share their ideas with the class or to ask any questions.

- Also, stop at appropriate places in the biography to share primary sources with students, including a picture of Franklin in his fur cap, Franklin’s speech at the constitutional convention, excerpts from Franklin’s letters, and an excerpt from Franklin’s autobiography. Discuss these with students since some parts may be difficult to understand. Students can also add leadership strategies they find in these primary sources to their notebooks.

- Make sure students meet one last time with a partner to discuss and share leadership strategies. Invite students to share strategies with the class or ask questions.

- Students use their notes to complete the worksheet.
Benjamin Franklin: A Leader

What strategies did Franklin use to convince people to compromise, work together, and participate in his projects? Write at least three. Write in complete sentences.

1. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

5. ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
Choose one of the following questions. Create your response on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What kind of leader was Franklin? Use at least three adjectives to describe him. Explain why each adjective fits Franklin.

2. Name another leader, past or present, you believe is similar to Franklin. Explain at least three things these two leaders have in common.

3. Briefly describe a difficult situation or issue facing our school, our country, or our world today. Explain at least two strategies Franklin used that you could use to bring people together to solve the problem you described.

4. Choose a difficult situation or issue facing our school, our country, or our world today. Then, choose at least one strategy used by Franklin. Use the strategy to create a letter, speech, or advertisement that will convince people to work together to solve the problem.