

Chapter 1 : Quick Biography of Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, in Boston in what was known as the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He was born on a small house on 17 Milk Street, across the street from the Old Meeting House.

He spent half his life in unofficial retirement. It also gave him the freedom to devote himself to public service. Despite never running for elected office, he served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, diplomat and ambassador to France and Sweden, the first postmaster general and the president of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania. Armonica invented by Benjamin Franklin. Franklin designed a musical instrument used by Mozart and Beethoven. He made his first prototype in by having a London glassmaker build him 37 glass orbs of different sizes and pitches, which he then mounted on a spindle controlled by a foot pedal. To play the instrument, the user would simply wet their fingers, rotate the apparatus and then touch the glass pieces to create individual tones or melodies. The armonica would go on to amass a considerable following during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Thousands were manufactured, and the likes of Mozart, Beethoven and Strauss all composed music for it. He was a reluctant revolutionary. Franklin was among the last of the founding fathers to come out in favor of full separation from Britain. Franklin had soured on the monarchy by the time he returned to the United States for the Second Continental Congress in , but his past support for King George III earned him the suspicion of many of his fellow patriots. Before he publicly announced his support for American independence, a few even suspected he might be a British spy. Franklin created a phonetic alphabet. His son was a British loyalist. Along with the two children he had with his wife, Deborah Read, Franklin also fathered an illegitimate son named William around . The two were once close friends and partnersâ€”William helped Franklin with his famous kite experimentâ€”but they later had a major falling out over the American Revolution. He spent two years in a colonial prison for opposing the revolution, and later became a leader in a loyalist group before moving to England at the end of the war. Franklin was a fashion icon in France. In , the Continental Congress sent Franklin to France to seek military aid for the revolution. Franklin capitalized on the French conception of Americans as rustic frontiersmen by dressing plainly and wearing a fur hat, which soon became his trademark and appeared in countless French portraits and medallions. He spent his later years as an abolitionist. Franklin owned two slaves during his life, both of whom worked as household servants, but in his old age he came to view slavery as a vile institution that ran counter to the principles of the American Revolution. Franklin left Boston and Philadelphia an unusual gift in his will. When he died in April , Franklin willed 2, pounds sterling to his birthplace of Boston and his adopted home of Philadelphia. The largesse came with an unusual caveat: A portion could then be spent, but the rest would remain off limits for another years, at which point the cities could use it as they saw fit. The two towns have since used the windfall to help finance the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia and the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology in Boston. Philadelphia also put some of its funds toward scholarships for students attending trade schools. Franklin had a lifelong love of swimming that began during his childhood in Boston. One of his first inventions was a pair of wooden hand paddles that he used to propel himself through the Charles River, and he wrote of once using a kite to skim across a pond. While living in England in the s, he displayed such an impressive array of swimming strokes during a dip in Thames that a friend offered to help him open his own swimming school.

Chapter 2 : Ben Franklin effect - Wikipedia

Benjamin Franklin was born on Milk Street, in Boston, Massachusetts, on January 17, , and baptized at Old South Meeting House. He was one of seventeen children born to Josiah Franklin, and one of ten born by Josiah's second wife, Abiah Folger; the daughter of Peter Foulger and Mary Morrill.

Jay loves talking about money, collecting coins, blasting hip-hop, and hanging out with his three beautiful boys. You can check out all of his online projects at jmoney. Thanks for reading the blog! I like it, I work really well in the early morning assuming I have coffee. Money August 13, at 6: Also, Franklin only got 6 hours of sleep a night? Hopefully the early wake-ups do with you if you indeed give it a shot: Reply 5 Matthew August 13, at 6: Reply 7 Marc August 13, at 7: Money August 13, at 1: The one area I currently lack the most in life is exercise too: I like that your body seemed to adjust to getting up earlier by a normal bedtime. I like your challenge about giving it a try for a week. The best part is that you sleep on the weekend. It makes me reminisce about sleeping on the weekends and our babies snuggling in bed with us as they woke up. Reply 11 Shan August 13, at 8: I am way more productive when I have those extra hours in the morning. I generally go to bed around If I happen to oversleep, I have a hard time getting on track for the day. My weekend wake up time is whenever I happen to wake up. The joys of getting old! Bookmarked to poke around! Reply 15 PaulM August 13, at 8: I must confess to sleeping in to 6: Reply 16 Dave August 13, at 8: It is hard, but worth it. Like a anything else in life, things that are worth doing are not easy. As you said, mornings are slow, peaceful, and productive. I especially like waking up early on the weekends. I can go and do my running around while the rest of the world is still in bed. Now all I need is a waterfront home with a giant porch that I can watch the sunrise from in my PJs every day ; 19 J. Just saw that you reside in Charleston, SC! Yes, Charleston truly is a magical city and we are so fortunate to live here! Money August 14, at 5: But only if you intro me to Shep from Southern Charm so we can party together: P Reply 23 Mrs. Wow August 13, at 9: I started waking up early a few months ago and it has had a drastic impact on my life. I never thought that I could actually do it, cause I thought I was a night owl, but once I started, it almost became addicting. I actually forgot to set my alarm this morning and still woke up at 5: But I completely agree how it starts the day off in a more productive way! Pop August 13, at 9: Reply 29 Joe August 13, at 9: I guess it just depends on the person and their routine. Kowalski August 13, at Early to bed, early to rise, make a man healthy, wealthy and wise comes to mind in this post. BF became much less frugal in his older years he spent much of his later days in France and was a huge hit with the French ladies. Sounds good to me work hard, build your wealth, then enjoy the good life. I had a good routine of sleeping between Us Badgers like the cold, I guess. Shifting my bedtime to 10 pm helped a little but not much. If I had the option of sleeping later, I would take it! Kowalski August 15, at Furniture too far more than could ever fit in his places. At least Bennie Frank practiced what he preached for most of his life. He also wanted to jail journalists who were critical sounds familiar? Money August 15, at 5: I did not know that about him. Reply 34 Gerald August 13, at I started in March with writing. I started by writing down 10 ideas every morning. And it grew from there. And I thought it seemed extreme. But the truth is, some of the most successful people wake up early and work on themselves first thing in the morning. Today, I wake up at 5: My morning practice gives me the clarity and the focus to pursue what is most important to me. And it is true, your morning routine supports other great habits. But that is another story for another time. Thanks for sharing your unique point of view. You inspire me to share my own morning practice, too! Money August 13, at 2:

Chapter 3 : Benjamin Franklin Quotes - BrainyQuote

Benjamin Franklin's father, English-born soap and candle maker Josiah Franklin, had seven children with first wife, Anne Child, and 10 more with second wife, Abiah Folger. Ben was his 15th child.

This biography gives the important facts about his life and his role in the War for Independence. Benjamin Franklin Childhood Ben was born on January 17, 1706, the tenth of seventeen children. As a child, his father planned for him to be a clergyman, but they were in no financial state for that to happen. Due to lack of money, Ben only ever attended one year of school. Instead of schooling him, his father sent him off to apprentice to his older brother at a printing shop. Ben loved to read, so he enjoyed printing, for he was able to read the many writings that came through their newspaper. Printer and Writer Benjamin Franklin, painted by Benjamin Wilson in around age 53 Ben wanted very badly to write for the paper, but his brother would not let him. Being the bright young boy that he was, Ben found a way to write anyway. He posed as an old widow and wrote papers, which he slipped under the door at night. The public loved this mysterious old woman who was very witty and most opinionated. Finally, after some weeks, he revealed himself. Although the public loved him and commended him for it, his brother was infuriated. He was scolded and beaten for being such a rotten fellow. This was the last time he was to do this. A few years later his brother was put in jail for a very offensive writing he put in his newspaper about a certain family. Ben was left to run the printer shop alone until his brother was finished serving his time in jail. Ben did an excellent job running the place and kept everything in good order. When his brother was released, instead of thanking Ben for keeping everything running, he paid no attention to him and went on to scold him later for some wrongdoing. A few months later when Ben was beaten for being late, he decided to run away. On His Own Benjamin Franklin tried to get a job as a printer, but failed and ended up on a ship to Philadelphia. There he spent the last of his money to buy bread for a meal. Benjamin Franklin, by Jean-Baptiste Greuze in He was spotted wandering the streets by Deborah Read, who after many twists and turns, would become his wife. She saw him, felt bad for him, and he invited him into the house. The Read family took him in and helped him get a job. He worked as an assistant printer for some time. Eventually, the governor took notice of him and offered to get him started in his own shop if he would only go to England and buy fonts. Naturally, Ben took him up on this offer and headed to London. While he was in London he received a letter stating that the governor backed down on his deal, so he would no longer pay for him to start his business. Also while he was in London, Deborah wrote some letters suggesting that they consider getting married; however, Ben said he was not yet ready. Apparently, he took too long to get ready, for upon his return he discovered that she had married another man. Soon, though, he realized that he was much better at printing than his master, so he quit his job and started his own printing shop. Married Life In the prime of his business he fathered a son named William. To this day only Ben knew who the mother was. She ran a shop with all sorts of odd and ends, and he owned a printing shop and bookstore. People said they never saw a happier pair. Ben did all sorts of things for the city of Philadelphia, so his social status grew. He was elected to represent the state of Pennsylvania in the Second Continental Congress, a position he accepted. Spy He ended up being sent over to England on several occasions to spy out different things in parliament. Unfortunately, when he shared his views of the revolution with his son William, they disagreed. This brought a permanent separation between them. This broke his heart, but freedom, at this time, was more important than family to him. Inventor During this time he developed a love for science. He invented many different things, including the scuba diving flippers and the wood stove, but his most important invention was the lightning rod. This is what earned the title "The man who tamed lightning. When he went over to France everyone loved him. He was young, rich, funny, smart, and flirtatious. He stayed in France for quite some time before moving back to America. He was very useful in that sense. When the war was over Franklin worked as a printer again for a short while, then he went back into politics. His last political job was in when he published a writing against slavery. He died in 1790 and had 20, people showed up at his funeral.

Chapter 4 : Benjamin Franklin

He was brilliant, amusing, clever, ever entertaining. He cultivated allies, avoided making enemies and kept his cards close to his chest. One might be deceived regarding his intentions, as his family learned painfully.

His father was Josiah Franklin, soap and candle maker. His mother was Abiah Folger, a home maker. Franklin was raised as a Presbyterian. His father, Josiah Franklin, emigrated from England in 1723. Education Boston Latin School is the oldest school in America. It was founded April 23, 1630. At 8 years old young Benjamin Franklin started attending South Grammar School Boston Latin showing early talent moving from the middle of the class to the top of it within a year. He showed great talent for writing and little for arithmetic. Young Franklin loved reading; he would borrow books from friends and save every penny to buy books. When he was 16 he became a vegetarian partly because he did not like to eat anything that was killed and partly to save money to buy books. He read voraciously trying to improve his writing style, grammar and eloquence. His father intended for Benjamin, as his youngest son, to serve in church but he showed no inclination for it. Unfortunately he had to cut his education short as his father could not afford paying for it. At 10 his father took him in as an apprentice in his soap and candle making shop. Benjamin was in charge of cutting wicks for candles, filling molds, attending the shop and running errands. In his brother James returned from England with a press and letters to set his printing business in Boston. To prevent Benjamin from becoming a sailor, as his brother Josiah had, his father sent him to work with his brother James as an apprentice. He made him sign an indenture for his apprenticeship which bounded him until he turned 21 and only then he could earn wages. His brother was abusive partly because Benjamin showed talent. Confrontations were taken to his father who usually ruled against James. The New England Courant Even after Benjamin ran away to Philadelphia the New England Courant continued to be published under his name until it ceased publication in 1722. Benjamin was in charge of setting the letters for the printer and sell newspapers door to door. This job did not satisfy him, he wanted to write but knew his brother would object. One day he left an anonymous article under the door of the print house signed under the pen name of Silence Dogood. From April to October he submitted 14 Dogood letters which were well received and published by the Courant. She abhorred arbitrary government and unlimited power. The New England Courant was a liberal newspaper publishing humorous articles and cartoons against the colonial government. One of the pieces published in June offended the Assembly and James was jailed for two weeks for contempt as he did not disclose the author. While James was in jail Benjamin ran the business. When James was discharged he was prohibited from printing the Courant so it was advertised as printed by Benjamin Franklin. The Courant was published until June for a total of 17 issues. Conservative and puritanical Boston was no place for a publication like the Courant. James was the first fighter for journalistic freedom in America and the most important journalistic influence on Benjamin Franklin. James Franklin closed up his printing shop and moved to more liberal Rhode Island. In at age 17, Benjamin took advantage of this clause and decided to leave his abusive brother and go to New York in search of work. He left Boston to New York with very little money in his pocket. Unable to find work in New York he proceeded to Philadelphia where he found employment in the printing house of Samuel Keimer. Franklin eventually married his daughter, Deborah Read, in Philadelphia was a city with a population of 2, It had been founded in and by it had become an important trading center and a major port. The first immigrants were Quakers followed by Mennonites, Jews, Catholics and Anglicans which called for more religion tolerance than Protestant Boston. The governor offered him government business if he was to set up his own printing shop. With a recommendation letter from the governor and after a 7 month absence Franklin returned to Boston to ask his father for a loan. Back in Boston his father declined to give him the loan, in his opinion he was still too young to be trusted with the management of a business and a great amount of money. Josiah Franklin was proud of his son for obtaining such important recommendation form a governor and creating a good reputation in such a short period of time. He promised him that when he turned 21 he would help him financially. Franklin returned to Philadelphia where he continued working for Samuel Keimer. During this time he was courting Deborah Read, the daughter of his landlady.

Chapter 5 : 10 Reasons Why Benjamin Franklin Was Actually A Superhero | The Franklin Institute

James Franklin needed an apprentice and so Benjamin Franklin was bound by law to serve his brother, at the age of thirteen. New England Courant James Franklin was the editor and printer of the "New England Courant", the fourth newspaper published in the colonies.

His character and thought were shaped by his religious upbringing, the philosophy of the historical era known as the Enlightenment, and the environment of colonial America. Youthful character Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706, in Boston, Massachusetts, into a devoted Puritan household. The Puritans were a religious group that stood against the practices of the Church of England. In his family had left England and moved to New England in search of religious freedom. Young Franklin was not content at home. However, he hated this trade—especially the smell. While learning the business Franklin read every word that came into the shop and was soon writing clever pieces that criticized the Boston establishment. He loved to read and even became a vegetarian in order to save money to buy books. When authorities imprisoned James for his own critical articles, Benjamin continued the paper himself. In at age seventeen Franklin left home and moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. By this time Franklin had begun to embrace the ideas of such Enlightenment thinkers as the physicist Sir Isaac Newton and the philosopher John Locke. The Enlightenment, which began in the sixteenth century and lasted until the late seventeenth century, was a movement that promoted the use of reason to learn truth. During this time period, many important scientific advances and discoveries were made through the use of observation and experimentation. Civil and scientific interests In Philadelphia, Franklin began working as a printer. In he went to England, where he quickly became a master printer and lived among the writers of London. He then became clerk of the Pennsylvania Assembly and postmaster of Philadelphia. At the same time he operated a bookshop and developed partnerships with other printers. Franklin also became involved in community improvement in He organized the Junto, a club of tradesmen whose activities included sponsoring a library, a fire company, a college, an insurance company, and a hospital. Next, Franklin turned to science. Having already invented what became known as the Franklin stove a metal stove used for heating a room, he now became fascinated with electricity. In a famous experiment he used a kite to prove that lightning is a form of electricity. The mysterious and terrifying natural occurrence now had an explanation. His invention of the lightning rod a metal rod that is set on top of a building to protect it from being damaged if it is struck by lightning added to his reputation. He became a leader in the long-dominant Quaker political party, which opposed the Proprietary party a political party made up of people who sought to preserve the power of the Penn family, the founding family of Pennsylvania. As a representative in the Assembly, Franklin was initially loyal to the British empire. He was on the side of the empire during the French and Indian War 1754-63; a war fought between France and Great Britain, which resulted in British control of land in North America east of the Mississippi River. For three decades or more Franklin had considered Britain a vital, freedom-extending country as dear and useful to its people in America as to those in England. Nevertheless, he was occasionally alarmed by British indifference toward the desires of people living in the colonies. Franklin lived in England from 1757 to 1775, seeking aid in restraining the power of the Penn family in Pennsylvania. Returning to America for nearly two years, he traveled through the American colonies as deputy postmaster general for North America. In this position, which he held for twenty years, Franklin greatly improved the postal service. He also continued his aid to poorer members of his family and to the family of his wife, Deborah. They had two children, Frankie, who died at four, and Sally. In Franklin lost his seat in the Pennsylvania Assembly. When the dangers of royal government began to increase, Franklin decided not to make the request. More radical position Franklin played a central role in the great crises that led to the Declaration of Independence in 1776. In the Stamp Act placed a tax on all business and law papers and printed materials in the American colonies. Many colonists opposed the tax as taxation without representation. After learning of the Benjamin Franklin. In a dramatic appearance before Parliament in 1774, he outlined American insistence on self-government. Franklin was the foremost American spokesman in Britain for the next nine years. However, in his service in England came to an unhappy end. Against his instructions, his friends in

Massachusetts published letters by Massachusetts governor Thomas Hutchinson that Franklin had obtained on a confidential basis. Exposed as a dishonest schemer, Franklin was reprimanded scolded by the British in and removed from his position as postmaster general. Although he was in danger of being jailed as a traitor, Franklin continued to work for better relations. Radical protests in America and the buildup of British troops there doomed such efforts. The revolutionary Franklin left England in March The American Revolution; a war in which American colonies fought for independence from Great Britain had begun on April 19, , with the battles of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts. During the next several months in America, Franklin enjoyed the surge for independence. In he helped draft the Declaration of Independence and was among those who readily signed his name to it. At the age of seventy he had become a passionate revolutionary. In he was appointed as a representative to France. There he gained astonishing personal success, winning the admiration of French intellectuals and the Parisian society. Though France was anxious for England to be defeated, it could not afford openly to aid the American rebels unless success seemed likely. In Franklin worked behind the scenes to speed war supplies across the Atlantic and win support from French political leaders who might help the United States. As the leading American representative in Europe, Franklin helped get French armies and navies on their way to North America, continued his efforts to supply American armies, and secured almost all of the outside aid that came to the American rebels. Peace commissioner After the British surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, in , Franklin made the first contact with representatives of the British government. During the summer of as the other peace commissioners, John Adams and John Jay , made their way toward peace negotiations in Paris, Franklin set the main terms of the final agreement. These included independence, guaranteed fishing rights, removal of all British forces, and a western boundary on the Mississippi River. Franklin, Adams, and Jay made an ideal team, winning for the United States a peace treaty of genuine national independence in Franklin returned to Philadelphia from France in He accepted election for three years as president of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania and was active in various projects and causes. Although ill, he also finished his autobiography. His last public service was to urge ratification approval of the Constitution and to approve the inauguration swearing into office of the new government under his old friend George Washington Franklin died peacefully in Philadelphia on April 17, Benjamin Franklin Printer, Inventor, Statesman. Fish, Bruce, and Becky Durost Fish. Chelsea House Publishers, Benjamin Franklin, Founding Father and Inventor. Who Was Ben Franklin? The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin. Yale University Press,

Chapter 6 : Ben Franklin's Thoughts About the Constitution on the Day It Was Signed | Mental Floss

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706, in colonial Boston. His father, Josiah Franklin (1688-1743), a native of England, was a candle and soap maker who married twice and had 17 children.

Josiah wanted Ben to attend school with the clergy, but only had enough money to send him to school for two years. He attended Boston Latin School but did not graduate; he continued his education through voracious reading. Although "his parents talked of the church as a career" [13] for Franklin, his schooling ended when he was ten. He worked for his father for a time, and at 12 he became an apprentice to his brother James, a printer, who taught Ben the printing trade. When Ben was 15, James founded *The New-England Courant*, which was the first truly independent newspaper in the colonies. When denied the chance to write a letter to the paper for publication, Franklin adopted the pseudonym of "Silence Dogood", a middle-aged widow. Franklin was an advocate of free speech from an early age. When his brother was jailed for three weeks in for publishing material unflattering to the governor, young Franklin took over the newspaper and had Mrs. When he first arrived, he worked in several printer shops around town, but he was not satisfied by the immediate prospects. After a few months, while working in a printing house, Franklin was convinced by Pennsylvania Governor Sir William Keith to go to London, ostensibly to acquire the equipment necessary for establishing another newspaper in Philadelphia. Following this, he returned to Philadelphia in with the help of Thomas Denham, a merchant who employed Franklin as clerk, shopkeeper, and bookkeeper in his business. The members created a library initially assembled from their own books after Franklin wrote: Franklin conceived the idea of a subscription library, which would pool the funds of the members to buy books for all to read. This was the birth of the Library Company of Philadelphia: In 1731, Franklin hired the first American librarian, Louis Timothee. The Library Company is now a great scholarly and research library. In 1727, Franklin had set up a printing house in partnership with Hugh Meredith; the following year he became the publisher of a newspaper called *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. The *Gazette* gave Franklin a forum for agitation about a variety of local reforms and initiatives through printed essays and observations. Over time, his commentary, and his adroit cultivation of a positive image as an industrious and intellectual young man, earned him a great deal of social respect. In 1727, Ben Franklin published the first German-language newspaper in America – "Die Philadelphische Zeitung" – although it failed after only one year, because four other newly founded German papers quickly dominated the newspaper market. Although Franklin apparently reconsidered shortly thereafter, and the phrases were omitted from all later printings of the pamphlet, his views may have played a role in his political defeat in 1738. Despite his own moral lapses, Franklin saw himself as uniquely qualified to instruct Americans in morality. He tried to influence American moral life through construction of a printing network based on a chain of partnerships from the Carolinas to New England. Franklin thereby invented the first newspaper chain. It was more than a business venture, for like many publishers since, he believed that the press had a public-service duty. Franklin quickly did away with all this when he took over the *Instructor* and made it *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. From the first, he had a way of adapting his models to his own uses. The thrifty *Patience*, in her busy little shop, complaining of the useless visitors who waste her valuable time, is related to the ladies who address Mr. And a number of the fictitious characters, *Ridentius*, *Eugenius*, *Cato*, and *Cretico*, represent traditional 18th-century classicism. Franklin was busy with a hundred matters outside of his printing office, and never seriously attempted to raise the mechanical standards of his trade. Nor did he ever properly edit or collate the chance medley of stale items that passed for news in the *Gazette*. His influence on the practical side of journalism was minimal. Undoubtedly his paper contributed to the broader culture that distinguished Pennsylvania from her neighbors before the Revolution. Like many publishers, Franklin built up a book shop in his printing office; he took the opportunity to read new books before selling them. After the second editor died, his widow Elizabeth Timothy took over and made it a success, – Editor Peter Timothy avoided blandness and crude bias, and after increasingly took a patriotic stand in the growing crisis with Great Britain. He became a Grand Master in 1734, indicating his rapid rise to prominence in Pennsylvania. He was the Secretary of St. Perhaps because of the circumstances of this delay, Deborah married a man named John Rodgers. This proved to be a regrettable

decision. Rodgers shortly avoided his debts and prosecution by fleeing to Barbados with her dowry, leaving her behind. Franklin established a common-law marriage with Deborah Read on September 1, 1719. They had two children together. Their son, Francis Folger Franklin, was born in October and died of smallpox in 1736. Their daughter, Sarah "Sally" Franklin, was born in 1720 and grew up to marry Richard Bache, have seven children, and look after her father in his old age. William Franklin William Franklin In 1741, year-old Franklin publicly acknowledged the existence of his son William, who was deemed "illegitimate," as he was born out of wedlock, and raised him in his household. Beginning at about age 30, William studied law in London in the early 1740s. He fathered an illegitimate son, William Temple Franklin, born February 22, 1746. Later in 1748, William married Elizabeth Downes, daughter of a planter from Barbados. After William passed the bar, his father helped him gain an appointment in 1752 as the last Royal Governor of New Jersey. A Loyalist, William and his father eventually broke relations over their differences about the American Revolutionary War. Deposed in 1776 by the revolutionary government of New Jersey, William was arrested at his home in Perth Amboy at the Proprietary House and imprisoned for a time. The younger Franklin went to New York in 1775, which was still occupied by British troops. They initiated guerrilla forays into New Jersey, southern Connecticut, and New York counties north of the city. He settled in London, never to return to North America. In the preliminary peace talks in 1782 with Britain, Benjamin Franklin insisted that loyalists who had borne arms against the United States would be excluded from this plea that they be given a general pardon. He was undoubtedly thinking of William Franklin. Franklin frequently wrote under pseudonyms. Although it was no secret that Franklin was the author, his Richard Saunders character repeatedly denied it. He sold about ten thousand copies per year—it became an institution. Daylight saving time DST is often erroneously attributed to a satire that Franklin published anonymously. Social contributions and studies by Benjamin Franklin Franklin was a prodigious inventor. Among his many creations were the lightning rod, glass harmonica a glass instrument, not to be confused with the metal harmonica, Franklin stove, bifocal glasses and the flexible urinary catheter. Franklin never patented his inventions; in his autobiography he wrote, "The same proposal was made independently that same year by William Watson. Franklin was the first to label them as positive and negative respectively, [46] [47] and he was the first to discover the principle of conservation of charge. He received honorary degrees from Harvard and Yale universities his first. Franklin advised Harvard University in its acquisition of new electrical laboratory apparatus after the complete loss of its original collection, in a fire which destroyed the original Harvard Hall in 1764. The collection he assembled would later become part of the Harvard Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, now on public display in its Science Center. This work led to the field becoming widely known. On June 15 Franklin may possibly have conducted his well-known kite experiment in Philadelphia, successfully extracting sparks from a cloud. Franklin described the experiment in the Pennsylvania Gazette on October 19, 1752, [53] [54] without mentioning that he himself had performed it. Franklin was careful to stand on an insulator, keeping dry under a roof to avoid the danger of electric shock. In his writings, Franklin indicates that he was aware of the dangers and offered alternative ways to demonstrate that lightning was electrical, as shown by his use of the concept of electrical ground. Franklin did not perform this experiment in the way that is often pictured in popular literature, flying the kite and waiting to be struck by lightning, as it would have been dangerous. When rain has wet the kite twine so that it can conduct the electric fire freely, you will find it streams out plentifully from the key at the approach of your knuckle, and with this key a phial, or Leyden jar, may be charged: He said that conductors with a sharp [60] rather than a smooth point could discharge silently, and at a far greater distance. He surmised that this could help protect buildings from lightning by attaching "upright Rods of Iron, made sharp as a Needle and gilt to prevent Rusting, and from the Foot of those Rods a Wire down the outside of the Building into the Ground; Would not these pointed Rods probably draw the Electrical Fire silently out of a Cloud before it came nigh enough to strike, and thereby secure us from that most sudden and terrible Mischief! While in England in 1757, he heard a complaint from the Colonial Board of Customs: Why did it take British packet ships carrying mail several weeks longer to reach New York than it took an average merchant ship to reach Newport, Rhode Island? The merchantmen had a longer and more complex voyage because they left from London, while the packets left from Falmouth in Cornwall. Franklin put the question to his cousin Timothy Folger, a Nantucket

whaler captain, who told him that merchant ships routinely avoided a strong eastbound mid-ocean current. Franklin worked with Folger and other experienced ship captains, learning enough to chart the current and name it the Gulf Stream, by which it is still known today. Franklin published his Gulf Stream chart in England, where it was completely ignored. Subsequent versions were printed in France and the U.S. Though it was Dr. Franklin who was said to have noted that the prevailing winds were actually from the northeast, contrary to what he had expected. In correspondence with his brother, Franklin learned that the same storm had not reached Boston until after the eclipse, despite the fact that Boston is to the northeast of Philadelphia. He deduced that storms do not always travel in the direction of the prevailing wind, a concept that greatly influenced meteorology. He wrote about them in a lecture series. In his later years he suggested using the technique for pulling ships. Concept of cooling Franklin noted a principle of refrigeration by observing that on a very hot day, he stayed cooler in a wet shirt in a breeze than he did in a dry one. To understand this phenomenon more clearly Franklin conducted experiments. In on a warm day in Cambridge, England, Franklin and fellow scientist John Hadley experimented by continually wetting the ball of a mercury thermometer with ether and using bellows to evaporate the ether. Bache of the University of Pennsylvania, the law of the effect of heat on the conduction of bodies otherwise non-conductors, for example, glass, could be attributed to Franklin. A certain quantity of heat will make some bodies good conductors, that will not otherwise conduct. And water, though naturally a good conductor, will not conduct well when frozen into ice.

Chapter 7 : Benjamin Franklin Biography: His Life and Important Facts

Benjamin Franklin's hobbies were reading, writing, printing, experimenting, inventing, debating, traveling and being active in politics. One of Franklin's greatest passions was reading, even when he was a young boy.

He was nearing the end of his life - he died six weeks later - and possibly believed this was as good a time as any to summarize the religious creed by which he lived. That He governs it by His Providence. That he ought to be worshipped. That the most acceptable Service we render to him, is doing Good to his other Children. That the Soul of Man is immortal, and will be treated with Justice in another Life respecting its Conduct in this As for Jesus of Nazareth I think the system of Morals and Religion as he left them to us, the best the World ever saw Religion was worthless unless it promoted virtuous behavior. Jesus was the greatest moral teacher who ever lived, but he was not God. Franklin, of course, was a transplanted Pennsylvanian. Born in Boston, he was raised in a devout Puritan home. Human beings were separated from God because of their sin. God, in his divine mercy, however, chose to offer salvation to humankind through the death and resurrection of his only son, Jesus Christ. Men and women were required to perform good works in the world, but any attempt in doing them without the aid of the Holy Spirit would be useless in the eyes of God. Josiah Franklin saw spiritual potential in his youngest son, and set him on a course toward the Congregational ministry. Franklin would never escape the faith of his youth. The work ethic he espoused was similar to the so-called Puritan work ethic that he had learned growing up in New England, and he never seemed to have fully relinquished a belief in the sovereignty of God over the world and its inhabitants. His motion failed, ostensibly because the Convention had no funds to pay local clergymen to act as chaplains. Library of Congress At the age of fifteen, Franklin read a series of lectures, published by the estate of British scientist Robert Boyle " , designed to counter the influence of Deism in English religious life. Deism was the belief that God created the world and allowed it to operate according to natural laws. Deists believed God did not intervene in the lives of his human creation. He did not perform miracles, answer prayer, or sustain the world by his providence. Religious belief was based on reason rather than divine revelation. In his Autobiography, Franklin wrote that these lectures "wrought an Effect on me quite contrary to what was intended by them: For the Arguments of the Deists which were quoted to be refuted, appeared to me much Stronger than the Refutation. His flirtation with this world view was little more than a form of youthful rebellion against the Calvinism of his Puritan upbringing. Although he never returned to the Calvinism of his childhood, the religion of his parents leavened much of his adult thinking. Franklin believed in a Creator - God who possessed great wisdom, goodness, and power. This God not only created the world, but sustained it. Franklin was amazed, for example, at the way God created the stars and the planets, but was even more amazed that God continued "to govern them in their greatest Velocity as they shall not flie off out of their appointed Bounds nor dash one against another, to their mutual Destruction. Thirty-six years after he claimed to embrace Deism, Franklin sounded like anything but an adherent to this religious system. This was also a God who answered prayer. In July , during the meeting of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Franklin called for prayer to bring reconciliation to the political differences of the body. His beliefs were less about Christian doctrine and more about virtue - moral behavior that serves the public good. He labored to instill character in his life, going so far as to attempt "moral perfection" through the daily cultivation of thirteen different virtues. In his Signing of the Constitution detail , Howard Chandler Christy " depicted Franklin conferring with Alexander Hamilton during the Constitutional Convention held in Philadelphia in Architect of the Capitol This kind of morality made for a better, more humane society. Civil life could not function without virtue. Franklin believed it was vital to sustaining a moral republic. Not everyone needed religion to be virtuous. There were some, Franklin wrote, who could "live a virtuous life without the assistance afforded by Religion. John Fea received his doctorate from Stony Brook University in He is chair of the history department at Messiah College, Grantham, and has written extensively for both scholarly and popular audiences. A Historical Introduction Religious and Spiritual Diversity.

Chapter 8 : Early Life – Benjamin Franklin Historical Society

Benjamin Franklin was known to have been an avid swimmer throughout his life and an early advocate for the benefits of the sport. As a result of this passion, which Franklin developed early in his life, he invented swim fins when he was just 11 years old; they are regarded as being his earliest invention.

Having heard that he had in his library a certain very scarce and curious book, I wrote a note to him, expressing my desire of perusing that book, and requesting he would do me the favour of lending it to me for a few days. When we next met in the House, he spoke to me which he had never done before, and with great civility; and he ever after manifested a readiness to serve me on all occasions, so that we became great friends, and our friendship continued to his death. After this competition was over, one-third of the students who had "won" were approached by the researcher, who asked them to return the money on the grounds that he had used his own funds to pay the winners and was running short; another third were asked by a secretary to return the money because it was from the psychology department and funds were low; another third were not approached. All three groups were then asked how much they liked the researcher. The second group liked him the least, the first group the most – suggesting that a refund request by an intermediary had decreased their liking, while a direct request had increased their liking. They had their subjects administer learning tests to accomplices pretending to be other students. The subjects were told the learners would watch as the teachers used sticks to tap out long patterns on a series of wooden cubes. The learners would then be asked to repeat the patterns. Each teacher was to try out two different methods on two different people, one at a time. In one run, the teachers would offer encouragement when the learner got the patterns correct. In the other run of the experiment, the teacher insulted and criticized the learner when they erred. Afterward, the teachers filled out a debriefing questionnaire that included questions about how attractive as a human being, not romantically and likable the learners were. Across the board, the subjects who received the insults were rated as less attractive than the ones who got encouragement. So, whenever your behavior is in conflict with your beliefs for example if you do a favor for someone you may not like very much or vice versa, when you do something bad to someone you are supposed to care about, this conflict immediately sets off alarm bells in your brain. The brain has a clever response – it goes about changing how you feel in order to reduce the conflict and turn off the alarms. Uses[edit] Some have observed that the Ben Franklin effect can be useful for improving relationships among coworkers. Instead of offering to help the potential client, a salesperson can instead ask the potential client for assistance: Such relationships, one source points out, "are defined by their fundamental imbalance of knowledge and influence. Attempting to proactively reciprocate favors with a mentor can backfire, as the role reversal and unsolicited assistance may put your mentor in an unexpected, awkward situation". Carnegie interprets the request for a favor as "a subtle but effective form of flattery". This is another way of showing admiration and respect, something the other person may not have noticed from us before. This immediately raises their opinion of us and makes them more willing to help us again both because they enjoy the admiration and have genuinely started to like us. It states that dependent, childlike behavior can induce a parent-child bond where one partner sees themselves as the caretaker. One commentator has discussed the Ben Franklin effect in connection with dog training, thinking "more about the human side of the relationship rather than about the dogs themselves. The Ben Franklin Effect suggests that how we treat our dogs during training influences how we think about them as individuals – specifically, how much we like or dislike them. When we do nice things for our dogs in the form of treats, praise, petting and play to reinforce desired behaviors, such treatment may result in our liking them more. We de-humanize them to justify the bad things we did to them. McCoy " or vendetta situations in various cultures: Seeing the casualties you create as something less than you, something deserving of damage, makes it possible to continue seeing yourself as a good and honest person, to continue being sane.

Chapter 9 : Benjamin Franklin - HISTORY

Benjamin Franklin's parents were Josiah Franklin and Abiah Folger. Josiah Franklin was born in Northamptonshire, England, in 1674, and came to the Colonies in 1723. He worked as a candle and soap maker in Boston.

In 1723, at age 12, he was apprenticed to his older brother James, a Boston printer. By age 16, Franklin was contributing essays under the pseudonym Silence Dogood to a newspaper published by his brother. At age 17, Franklin ran away from his apprenticeship to Philadelphia, where he found work as a printer. In late 1726, he traveled to London, England, and again found employment in the printing business. The business became highly successful producing a range of materials, including government pamphlets, books and currency. In 1727, Franklin became the owner and publisher of a colonial newspaper, the Pennsylvania Gazette, which proved popular and to which he contributed much of the content, often using pseudonyms. Franklin and Read had a son, Francis, who died of smallpox at age 4, and a daughter, Sarah. Franklin had another son, William C. William Franklin served as the last colonial governor of New Jersey, from 1752 to 1753, and remained loyal to the British during the American Revolution. He died in exile in England. Franklin also organized the Pennsylvania militia, raised funds to build a city hospital and spearheaded a program to pave and light city streets. Additionally, Franklin was instrumental in the creation of the Academy of Philadelphia, a college which opened in 1751 and became known as the University of Pennsylvania in 1763. Franklin also was a key figure in the colonial postal system. In 1753, the British appointed him postmaster of Philadelphia, and he went on to become, in 1759, joint postmaster general for all the American colonies. In this role he instituted various measures to improve mail service; however, the British dismissed him from the job in 1761 because he was deemed too sympathetic to colonial interests. In July 1775, the Continental Congress appointed Franklin the first postmaster general of the United States, giving him authority over all post offices from Massachusetts to Georgia. He held this position until November 1776, when he was succeeded by his son-in-law. Scientist and Inventor In 1752, Franklin, then 42 years old, had expanded his printing business throughout the colonies and become successful enough to stop working. Retirement allowed him to concentrate on public service and also pursue more fully his longtime interest in science. In the 1750s, he conducted experiments that contributed to the understanding of electricity, and invented the lightning rod, which protected buildings from fires caused by lightning. In 1752, he conducted his famous kite experiment and demonstrated that lightning is electricity. Franklin also coined a number of electricity-related terms, including battery, charge and conductor. In addition to electricity, Franklin studied a number of other topics, including ocean currents, meteorology, causes of the common cold and refrigeration. He developed the Franklin stove, which provided more heat while using less fuel than other stoves, and bifocal eyeglasses, which allow for distance and reading use. In the early 1760s, Franklin invented a musical instrument called the glass armonica. Franklin and the American Revolution In 1765, at a meeting of colonial representatives in Albany, New York, Franklin proposed a plan for uniting the colonies under a national congress. Although his Albany Plan was rejected, it helped lay the groundwork for the Articles of Confederation, which became the first constitution of the United States when ratified in 1777. In 1762, Franklin traveled to London as a representative of the Pennsylvania Assembly, to which he was elected in 1761. Over several years, he worked to settle a tax dispute and other issues involving descendants of William Penn, the owners of the colony of Pennsylvania. After a brief period back in the U.S. While he was abroad, the British government began, in the mid-1760s, to impose a series of regulatory measures to assert greater control over its American colonies. In 1765, Franklin testified in the British Parliament against the Stamp Act of 1765, which required that all legal documents, newspapers, books, playing cards and other printed materials in the American colonies carry a tax stamp. Although the Stamp Act was repealed in 1766, additional regulatory measures followed, leading to ever-increasing anti-British sentiment and eventual armed uprising by the American colonists. In 1776, he was part of the five-member committee that helped draft the Declaration of Independence, in which the 13 American colonies declared their freedom from British rule. As minister to France starting in 1776, Franklin helped negotiate and draft the Treaty of Paris that ended the Revolutionary War. In 1787, he was a Pennsylvania delegate to the Constitutional Convention. At the end of the convention, in September 1787, he urged his fellow delegates to

support the heavily debated new document. Franklin died a year later, at age 84, on April 17, 1790, in Philadelphia. In his will, he left money to Boston and Philadelphia, which was later used to establish a trade school and a science museum and fund scholarships and other community projects. More than 200 years after his death, Franklin remains one of the most celebrated figures in U.S. history.