



Story Guide “What’s the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?”

Name _____

The genre of this story is _____ because it is the story of someone’s life written by another person. p. 650

What did Franklin publish in 1732?
_____ p. 652

An almanac is a book that is full of “odd pieces of _____ and bits of _____ on this and that”. p. 652

Do you think Franklin’s one-line sayings in Poor Richard’s Almanac give good advice? Why or why not? _____
_____ pp. 652-653

Name one trick with electricity that people in Europe saw preformed.
_____ p. 654

What was Franklin’s Big Idea? That _____ and _____ are the same. p. 654

What happened during Ben Franklin’s electrical picnic? He was knocked _____ . p. 654

Why didn’t Franklin do his electrical experiment in Philadelphia? _____
_____ p. 655

Why did Franklin become the most famous man in the American colonies? In the fall of 1776, he was sent to _____ to try to talk the French into _____ .pp. 661-662

Who gave Franklin gave him honors and the title of doctor?
_____ p. 656

Franklin invented the lightening rod. What is a lightening rod? _____
_____ pp. 656-657

How did Franklin improve life for the people in Philadelphia? He helped organize a _____ company, a _____, and an expedition to seek the _____. pp. 657-658

Because he was good at _____ into doing what he wanted them to do, Franklin was sent to London, England in 1757 to represent the American colonies. Later, he was sent to France. p. 658

In London, Franklin began to live in _____ and _____. He bought new things such as shoes, wigs, shirts, a watch, buckles, candlesticks, chinaware, and a new carriage. He rented 4 _____ from Mrs. Stevenson who treated him like a _____. p. 658

What was different about the way Franklin dressed in France than in England? He wore a _____ instead of a _____ on his head. When he arrived in France, he was _____, _____, and _____ --- not the stylish, famous-looking figure the French has expected. p. 662

What was Franklin's last public duty at age 82? He helped write the _____ of the _____. p. 665

When the Constitution was finished, what did Franklin think of it? _____ p. 666

Write a poem below about Benjamin Franklin. You can use any of the types of poems that we have learned to write or you can make it rhyme. Be sure to include information that you learned from the story. Illustrate your poem.