



Read Aloud Transcript

Language Arts IB Module 24: Phonics
of the Week Long i: igh, ie, y

Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin

By: Gene Barretta

Book ISBN #: 978-0312535698

Objectives:

- Students will identify if this story is fiction or non-fiction.
- Students will identify facts presented in the story.
- Students will match inventions of the past to what is happening now.

Before Reading	
Directions	Teacher Script
Say to the students:	<i>Do you remember the story we read about coins? How about the story we read about light? Today's story has a connection to both coins and light. Our book today is about a famous inventor. His face used to be on the half dollar coin. This inventor was also one of the scientists who discovered the true nature of electricity. If we didn't have electricity, we would not have lights inside our houses or schools.</i>
Hold up the book, point to the title and say:	<i>The title of this book is Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin by Gene Barretta. Gene Barretta is the author of our story. Can anyone tell me who the illustrator is? Answer: It's Gene Barretta. He wrote and illustrated this book. Does anyone know what the word invention means?</i>

Give students time to answer, then say:	<i>An invention is how something is made or created the first time. Now that we know what an invention is. Do you think this book is going to be fiction or non-fiction? Remember, fiction tells a made-up story, and non-fiction tells facts and information.</i>
Give students time to answer, then say:	<i>This story is non-fiction because we are going to learn facts about a famous inventor who created things that we still use today.</i>

During Reading	
Directions	Teacher Script
Open the book and read pages 1-8 then say:	<i>Do any of your parents or grandparents wear glasses? Maybe some of them wear bifocals. Ben Franklin inventing bifocals is a fact because we can prove it!</i>
Continue reading the next two pages (9 and 10) then say:	<i>What is a fact that Ben learned about lightning? Answer: Ben learned that lightning is electricity. How did he do that? Answer: He attached a metal wire to the top of a kite and gathered electricity from a storm cloud.</i>
Continue reading the next two pages (11 and 12), and say:	<i>Ben also invented the lightning rod. Does anyone know what a lightning rod is and what it does? Answer: It is a metal rod placed on buildings to prevent lightning from striking them and causing fires.</i>

<p>Continue reading the next 12 pages, stop after reading about the clocks on page 24. Then say:</p>	<p><i>You just learned a fact about clocks: Ben designed the first clock with a second hand! How many hands did clocks have before Ben's invention? Answer: Two, the hour hand and the minute hand.</i></p>
<p>Continue reading the next two pages (25-26). Then say:</p>	<p><i>What are some facts we learned about the odometer? Answer: Ben created the odometer many, many years ago, and every car now has one in it. Who can tell me what an odometer does? Answer: The odometer tells you how many miles you have driven.</i></p>
<p>Continue reading the next two pages (27-28) about businesses in communities. Then ask:</p>	<p><i>How many of you have a post office, hospital, fire station, or library in your community? Ben helped organize these public services many years ago. It's a fact that these services are important.</i></p>
<p>Continue reading the next two pages (29-30). Then say:</p>	<p><i>Ben did many things in his life. His biggest accomplishment was helping to develop the Constitution. The Constitution established our government, created laws, and gave citizens rights. We still follow the Constitution today, and that's another fact that can be proven.</i></p>
<p>Finish reading the last page, then say:</p>	<p><i>Can you think of ways that Ben's inventions continue to change our lives?</i></p>
<p>Give students time to answer and share their ideas. If kids have a hard time answering refer back to a few pages in the story that highlight Ben Franklin's inventions.</p>	

After Reading

Directions	Teacher Script
<p>After finishing the story, complete the Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin interactive matching activity.</p>	<p><i>This story taught us about many important things Ben Franklin did and how his accomplishments inspired things today.</i></p>
<p>Pull up the activity link so that the students can see it.</p>	<p><i>I am going to post a link to this activity for you to complete. You are going to match things that happened when Ben Franklin was alive to similar things that are happening now.</i></p>
<p>Demonstrate how to click and match items in the interactive, but do not actually match a pair. Post the link to the matching interactive in the meeting chat box.</p>	<p><i>I just posted the link to the chat. Click on the link and match the items from Ben to Now.</i></p>
<p>Give students a few minutes to complete the interactive on their own, then display the interactive and discuss the answers with the students, by asking the following questions as you match each item.</p>	<p><i>Let's look at the interactive together.</i></p> <p><i>How did Ben being the first to print a political cartoon, change newspapers? Answer: Ben: First to print a political cartoon matches Now: Newspapers with illustrations.</i></p> <p><i>How did Ben's discovery of electricity with lightning change our world today? Answer: Ben: Discovered electricity with lightning and metal wire matches Now: World relies on electricity.</i></p> <p><i>How did Ben promoting citrus fruits to stay healthy influence a way we stay healthy today? Answer: Ben: Early promoter of citrus fruits to stay healthy matches Now: People take vitamin C to stay healthy.</i></p>

	<p><i>How did Ben's design of two types of chairs influence how chairs are made today? Answer: Ben: Designed two types of useful chairs matches Now: Chairs come in all shapes and sizes.</i></p>
<p>After you finish reviewing the interactive say:</p>	<p><i>Great job, class! You have learned a lot about Benjamin Franklin and his contributions to our country.</i></p>