

Philadelphia News

By Ryan Frimmer, Imani Mooketsane, Erik Huovilainen, Aiko Shibata

Independence Hall

By Aiko Shibata

On October 15th 2014, we went to Philadelphia. My class had so much fun. we learned a lot about the constitution. These are somethings we learned about: The Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Benjamin Franklin, and Franklin's print shop.

By Ryan
Frimmer

In 1732, colonists started constructing the Independence Hall which took two years. The Constitutional Convention took place in Independence Hall. On 1765, the Constitutional Convention started and then ended on May 1787. Many delegates came from the 13 colonies which includes George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Benjamin Franklin.

The government was poor and it stayed that way until 1799. This is why the delegate met and did the Constitutional Convention. Each colony had its own laws and it's own life. The colonies needed a stronger government so they wouldn't have been taken over again. So the delegates wrote the constitution.

Philadelphia is well known because that is the city where the constitution was written. The Independence Hall is 90% original on the outside and 70% original in the inside today. The Independence Hall is located at Chestnut Street, between 5th and 6th St.



The Independence Hall

The First American

By Imani Mooketsane

Have you heard of Benjamin Franklin? Well all of the fifth graders have heard about him because on Wednesday, October 15th 2014, we all went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to learn about the history of our country.

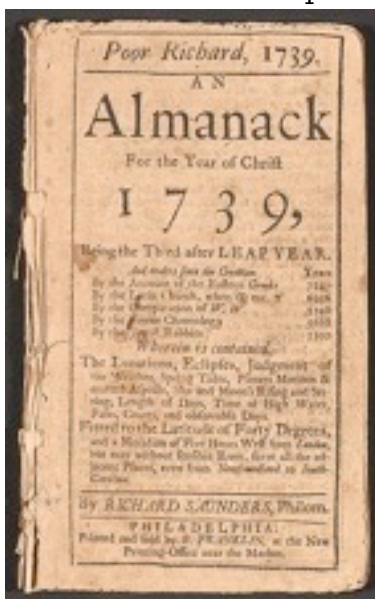
Benjamin Franklin is very important to the city and people of Philadelphia. He was from a family of seventeen children and was the fifteenth child. Ben was born in January 17th, 1706 in Boston, Massachusetts. He was able to go to school for two years and when he was ten he had to be a candle maker. For a while he begged his father for another job because his job was messy and in my opinion it was really dangerous too. I bet you're wondering if he got another job. Well he did! His father got tired of his whining and Ben told him that he wanted to be a printer like his brother James. And in his time, (around the seventeen-hundreds) the paper they used was different from ours. Their paper was made out of recycled clothing so Benjamin went around asking if neighbors were done with any clothes. And even now we use fabric paper. Yes. Really! Money is made from fabric and everyone uses money.

When Ben was seventeen years old he ran away from his home in Massachusetts to New York then Philadelphia because he got in a fight with James and got mad and ran away. Sad story, right?

Despite living without his parents and siblings, Ben had a pretty good life. He got married to a woman named Deborah reed and had 3 kids named William, Francis, and Sarah. He wrote a book called "Poor Richard's Almanac" in 1732 and a newspaper called the Pennsylvania Gazette. He got very popular in Philadelphia. We also visited his very own print shop. And he has a saying, "Three people can keep a secret if two of them are dead". Another one is "early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise". Both sayings are from his almanac.

Ben retired from being a printer when he was 42 in 1748. By then he was a rich man. He helped set up Philadelphia's first fire and police departments. And he started to get into science. Because of his discovery that lightning is electricity, he got the name Dr. Franklin. Benjamin started the library system, helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence. He even got to sign the Constitution and be at the meetings of the constitutional convention as a representative of Pennsylvania. He was the oldest one at the meetings. He was 81. He had some great times in his life. But of course there comes the time that everyone has to die. And when he did, there were 2,000 people at his funeral. He died on April 17, 1790 at age 84. And if you ever want to see his grave, just know that it's at the Christ Church burial ground. You also might see pennies on his grave because it's a tradition to throw pennies on his grave. He has another saying," a penny saved is a penny earned" so that could be why people throw pennies on his grave.

Benjamin Franklin was very important to Philadelphia and the colonies and he's still important now to the United States.



*Benjamin
Franklin's
"Poor
Richard's
Almanac*



Benjamin Franklin.

The Symbol of Freedom

By Erik Huovilainen

Have you ever gone to see the Liberty Bell? Well you should. It is an amazing experience. The Liberty Bell, one of the Americans most treasured objects, was first celebrated on July 8, 1776, announcing new freedom throughout the country. Since then, it has been a symbol of liberty that Americans enjoy under their government. The White Chapel Company in England made the bell and sent it to Pennsylvania. The bell arrived on September 1, 1752. On March 10, 1753 when it was hung, the clapper (the person who rung the bell) struck the side so hard that it made a crack in the big bell. They had the bell delivered back to England to top workers John Pass and John Stow, who were dedicated to fix it. As time passed, the bell got cracked so they decided to ring it one last time on George Washington's birthday which was on February 22nd. It is believed that the bell cracked for good on Washington's Birthday in 1846.



The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia



John Stow above



The City of Philadelphia

We hoped that you enjoyed this information and learned from it. We hope you're excited for your trip to Philadelphia!