

# Philadelphia's Cool Constitution Tour

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## Have you Ever Visited Philadelphia?

Well, recently, on October 15th, 2014 the PS290 fifth graders went on a trip to Philadelphia to learn more about the history of the United States. My fellow classmates and I learned more about the subject of the Constitution. Specifically, we went into the Independence Hall, learned more about Benjamin Franklin, went to the National Constitution Center and finally we all crowded around the Liberty Bell.

~Sophia Karson



**The City of Philadelphia**

## 84 Years of a Remarkable Man

We learned about what Benjamin Franklin had achieved; this came up a lot during our tour. Benjamin was born in 1706 in Boston and died in 1790 in Philadelphia. He was the 15<sup>th</sup> child out of 17 children. At 10 years old Benjamin went to work with his dad making candles and soap. He was so bored with this job and begged his dad to stop. At age 12, Benjamin's dad allowed him to become an apprentice to Benjamin's brother James who was a printer. When Benjamin was around 16 years old he and his brother got into a big fight, and Benjamin ran off from Boston to Philadelphia to start his new life.

Benjamin had different jobs over the years such as an inventor, scientist, bookkeeper and print shop owner. He also had a strong interest in electricity, and was one of five men to draft the Declaration of Independence. As Benjamin was getting much older and the government was beginning to fall apart. 55 delegates from 12 states came to Philadelphia for the Constitutional Convention to try and figure out the problems. At 81 years old Benjamin was the oldest at the Convention. Benjamin Franklin was 84 years old when he died, and he is still remembered for what he did to make our country the place it is today.

**This is a picture of the Constitutional Convention in 1787**



**Below, is Benjamin Franklin**



## The Best 30 Minutes in the Independence Hall

In the Independence Hall, you are able to be informed on the Constitution. If you ever go to it, you can get a real visual and idea of the history of the Constitution. Our tour guide informed us about the Independence Hall. We learned that the construction of the Independence Hall began in 1753. This became an important building to the people of the United States because it was a symbol of freedom. Since this building was very important to the citizens, on May 25, 1787 a very important meeting was held, The Constitutional Convention which led to writing the Constitution. In the Independence Hall, we walked through all of the rooms. Specifically, we went to the room where the convention was held. We learned that George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison were all one of the very important people at the meeting. Our class peered over the ropes and we were able to see where George Washington sat. Everyone could see the big sun on his chair that symbolized if the United States was rising or setting.



**Above is the Independence Hall**

The Independence Hall is a great place to visit. I remember one of my classmates saying, "Wow, in the Independence Hall, I learned a lot. I really want to come back here." In conclusion, you are able to understand more about the major historical events using some of your senses. In conclusion, the Independence Hall is a very interesting place.

~Sophia Karson and Jackie Ayr

## We The People

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, as you know, the fifth grade went to Philadelphia. While we were there, we went to the National Constitution Center (NCC). Did you know that the National Constitution Center is the first museum created by congress to share information about the United States? It is also the first museum to ever share information about the U.S. constitution. During our trip to NCC, our group looked all around us. There were many exhibits that we investigated and shows that were seen. Specifically, we saw a movie called *Freedom Rising*. The movie is about the history of the United States of America. It takes you through a journey of the United States from 1787 to the present. It is a movie that is projected on screens all around you, sort of like a 4-D movie. We learned that the museum NCC has a rare, 1<sup>st</sup> constitution printed for the public. The NCC has many over 1 million artifacts in there.

The National Constitution Center is located in Independence MALL, not hall, 525 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106.

### **This is the National Constitution Center**



~Nathaniel Maddalene