

1706

Benjamin Franklin is born  
in Boston

1718-1723

Franklin works as an  
apprentice in his brother  
James' workshop

1722

Writes his Silence Dogood  
letters

1723

Franklin runs away to New  
York, then Philadelphia

1724-1726

Franklin works in London  
print shop

1727

Franklin founds the Junto  
with his Philadelphia  
friends

1728

Franklin opens his own  
workshop with partner,  
Hugh Meredith

1729

Franklin starts publishing  
the *Pennsylvania Gazette*

1730

Franklin marries Deborah  
Read

1731

Franklin sets up America's  
first subscription library

1731

Franklin's son William is  
born

1732

Franklin begins publishing  
*Poor Richard's Almanac*

1736

Franklin organizes  
Philadelphia's Union Fire  
Company

1736-1751

Franklin serves as clerk of  
the Pennsylvania Assembly

1737

Franklin becomes  
Postmaster of Philadelphia

1740

Franklin invents the  
Franklin stove also called  
the "Pennsylvania  
fireplace"

1743

Franklin's daughter "Sally"  
is born

1746

Franklin begins  
experimenting with  
electricity

1748

Franklin retires from  
printing

1751

Franklin helps found the  
Academy of Philadelphia  
(later University of  
Pennsylvania)

1751

Franklin helps found the  
Pennsylvania Hospital

1751

Franklin becomes a member  
of the Pennsylvania  
Assembly

1752

Franklin's famous kite  
experiment with electricity

1753

Franklin becomes  
Postmaster-General for the  
Northern Colonies  
(until 1774)

1757

Franklin represents the  
Pennsylvania Assembly in  
London  
(until 1762)

1762

Franklin publishes a  
description of his glass  
armonica

1764

Franklin defends Native  
Americans from the Paxton  
Boys

1764

Franklin serves in London,  
as first agent for PA, then  
GA, NJ, and MA  
(until 1775)

1766

Franklin is a witness in  
Parliament on Stamp Act  
issue

1771

Franklin starts to write his  
autobiography

1775

Franklin serves as a  
delegate to the Second  
Continental Congress

1776

Franklin serves on a  
committee to draft the  
Declaration

1777

Franklin negotiates for French support of the American Revolution

1782-1783

Franklin negotiates treaty with England along with John Adams and John Jay

1785

Franklin is elected president of the Pennsylvania Council

1787

Franklin attends Constitutional Convention

1789

Franklin becomes president of Pennsylvania Abolitionist Society

1790

Franklin dies in Philadelphia on April 17

1754-1763

French and Indian War

1765

Under King George III, Parliament passes the Stamp Act

1770  
Boston Massacre

1773  
Boston Tea Party

1774  
Parliament passes the  
Intolerable Acts

1774  
Louis XVI becomes King of  
France

1775  
American Revolution  
begins

1783  
Treaty of Paris ends the  
American Revolution

1789  
French Revolution  
begins with the storming of  
the Bastille

1790  
U.S. Capital in Philadelphia

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