

MRS. MATIENZO – BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” – Ben Franklin

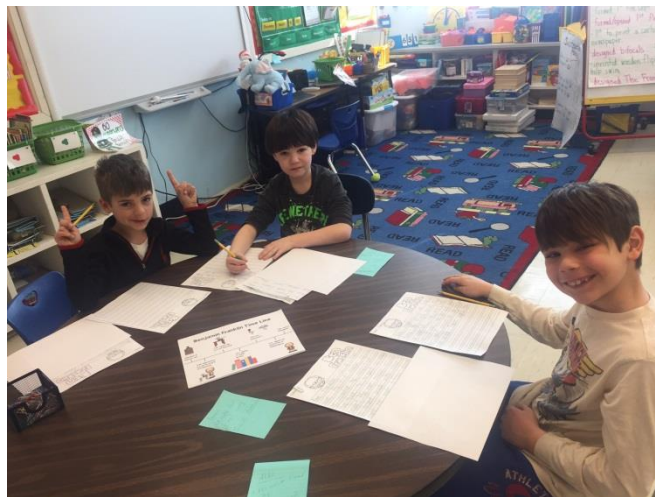
I decided to work with my combined first and second graders on our school wide hero project. **Ben Franklin** is a hero in so many ways, and ironically, learning about him tied in perfectly to the first grade theme of American Heros, and the second grade theme of American Symbols. On a personal note, I have been motivated by the above quote since I began my teaching career.

I first, introduced to the students the word “hero”. We brainstormed characteristics of what made up a hero and created a vocabulary chart. Next, we did hands on activities, which reinforced the idea of what makes up a hero. The students manipulated vocabulary words and categorized them into words that describe a hero and words that do not describe a hero.

We then continued to learn about Benjamin Franklin using different learning modalities. These modalities included the use of visualization through videos. We also learned auditorily through listening to read alouds as well as books on the computer. The students also practiced their fluency after illustrating their own “My Book about Benjamin Franklin”.


From our list of the many reasons why Ben Franklin is a hero, the students picked what they wanted to write about. They shared with the class why they felt Ben was a hero. Scaffolding was used for students to be able to create their personal best writing piece. The students then created illustrations to match their writing.

Students then had the opportunity to share their work with the class. Each student practiced being a good member of the audience, offered a compliment, and generated on question to ask after each classmate shared.





Name: Hadley



Ben Franklin

Ben Franklin was a hero because he opened a free library for people to read books. Also Ben made glasses. Ben also made printers. Ben Franklin invented the lightning rod to keep people safe.

