ANSWERS

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most accomplished and beloved Founding Fathers of the United States of America. He is also well known for being a writer, publisher, scientist, diplomat, and inventor.

Key Events/Role: Ben Franklin was a major figure during the American Revolution. The First Continental Congress, held in 1774, was his idea. He delivered the colonies' petition to King George III of England. In 1775, he became the Pennsylvania delegate to the Second Continental Congress. Franklin was also part of the committee that wrote the Declaration of Independence. Franklin went to France for several years in 1776, where he gathered French support for the American Revolution. This alliance with France was one of the main reasons why the American colonists were able to defeat Britain. Franklin remained in France during the American Revolution, and in 1783, he helped to negotiate the end of the war with the Treaty of Paris.

Childhood: Youngest of 16 children. Youngest boy. Left school at 10. Worked with his father as a chandler, then with his brother as a printer. Left home at 17.

Published Poor Richard's Almanack. Invented many things we still use today. First Postmaster General, first lending library, first fire department.

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