Now Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin



Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin



Franklin by Gene Barretta

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Benjamin Franklin is widely recognized as one of the most influential figures in American history. His contributions to science, politics, and diplomacy are well-known. However, many people are unaware of his prolificacy as an inventor.

Throughout his lifetime, Franklin invented or improved upon a wide range of devices and concepts that continue to impact our lives today. His inventions span a diverse range of fields, including science, technology, transportation, and communication.

The Lightning Rod

Perhaps Franklin's most famous invention is the lightning rod. In the 18th century, lightning strikes were a common and deadly occurrence. Franklin's invention of the lightning rod provided a way to protect buildings and people from lightning strikes.

The lightning rod is a simple device that consists of a metal rod that is placed on top of a building. The rod is connected to the ground by a wire. When lightning strikes the rod, the electricity flows through the wire and into the ground, where it is safely dissipated.

The lightning rod was a groundbreaking invention that saved countless lives. It is still used today on buildings all over the world.

Bifocals

Franklin also invented bifocals, which are eyeglasses that have two different focal lengths. Bifocals allow people to see both near and far without having to switch glasses.

Franklin invented bifocals after he began to experience difficulty seeing both near and far. He realized that he could create a pair of glasses that would allow him to see both distances by combining two lenses with different focal lengths.

Bifocals are now a common sight, but they were a revolutionary invention at the time. They have made life easier for millions of people who have difficulty seeing both near and far.

The Franklin Stove

Franklin also invented the Franklin stove, which is a type of wood-burning stove that is designed to be more efficient and produce less smoke than traditional fireplaces.

The Franklin stove is made of cast iron and has a baffle that helps to direct the smoke up the chimney. This design allows the stove to burn more efficiently and produce less smoke.

The Franklin stove was a popular invention in the 18th and 19th centuries, and it is still used in some homes today.

The Library Company of Philadelphia

In addition to his inventions, Franklin also founded the Library Company of Philadelphia, which is one of the oldest libraries in the United States.

The Library Company of Philadelphia was founded in 1731 and has been a center for learning and scholarship for over 280 years.

Franklin's vision for the library was to create a place where people could come to learn and to share ideas. He believed that libraries were essential to the development of a free and democratic society.

Franklin's Legacy

Benjamin Franklin was a true Renaissance man. He was a scientist, inventor, diplomat, and statesman. His contributions to American history are immeasurable.

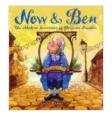
Franklin's inventions have had a profound impact on our world. They have made our lives safer, more convenient, and more enjoyable.

Franklin's legacy is one of innovation, creativity, and service to others. He is an inspiration to us all to use our talents and abilities to make the world a better place.

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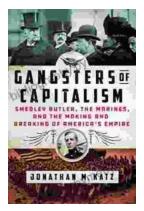
Now Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin is a fascinating and inspiring book that tells the story of one of America's greatest inventors.

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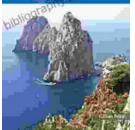


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