Benjamin Franklin was one of the most brilliant, creative and productive Americans of the 1700s. You can find a number of connections to Ben Franklin and his many interests here in the collections of the Mercer Museum. Let’s see how many you can discover as you search the Museum. Have fun!

1. With heavy tool something like this, Ben’s arm surely got tired.

   This machine helped create something so people could receive information from all over the American colonies. He used letters of the alphabet and a fluid of black.

   What could it be, this tool which produced a product that kept us interested from front to back!

   *(Clue: Central Court, 2nd Level)*

   **PRINTING PRESS**

2. Ben Franklin first felt the need to have a company formed to help put out flames.

   It was important for these men to protect themselves, because dealing with fire is not fun and games.

   What object in our collection did the volunteers learn to wear on their heads?

   *(Clue: 4th Level, near Surveying & Navigation)*

   **FIRE HELMET**

3. Ben Franklin was tired of losing our new nation’s coins to the King of England.

   Ben designed a new way for people to buy items they need.

   He designed them very well to discourage reproductions by thieves.

   This object was used in making money from paper, like we still use today.

   *(Clue: 3rd Level, Historic Human Tools)*

   **PRINTING PLATE FOR PAPER CURRENCY**
4. Ben worked to fix this service, so things were delivered fast and on time.

Letters, papers and news arrived from all around;

During Ben’s day, this service was located in a store.

Where did people pick up these items sent from different towns?

(Clue: Central Court, 2nd Level)
GENERAL STORE—POSTAL SERVICE

5. This particular object was inspired when Ben kept burning his knees.

He designed it & wrote detailed instructions so that every ironworker could make one for whoever wished to keep warm.

(Clue: 6th Level, Stairs Near Owl Terrace Gallery)
FRANKLIN STOVE OR PENNSYLVANIA FIREPLACE

6. Ben said that to be “healthy, wealthy and wise” one should be “early to bed and early to rise”.

One of these might help you know when it was bed time, and when it was time to “rise.”

(Clue: 5th Level, Room 55)
CLOCKS & WATCHES

7. Ben definitely needed help with his vision.

No doctor could improve his focus, both far away and near.

But Ben was tired of carrying this extra pair.

So our inventive Ben created this object, which now helps millions see everywhere.

(Clue: 4th Level, Healing Arts)
BIFOCLE GLASSES

8. Ben was a big fan of cleanliness and maintaining good health.

Using this object in Ben’s time was not common, but he used it quite a lot.

Just fill it up with water and receive some relaxation.

(Clue: Central Court, 2nd Level, Stairs)
BATHTUBS