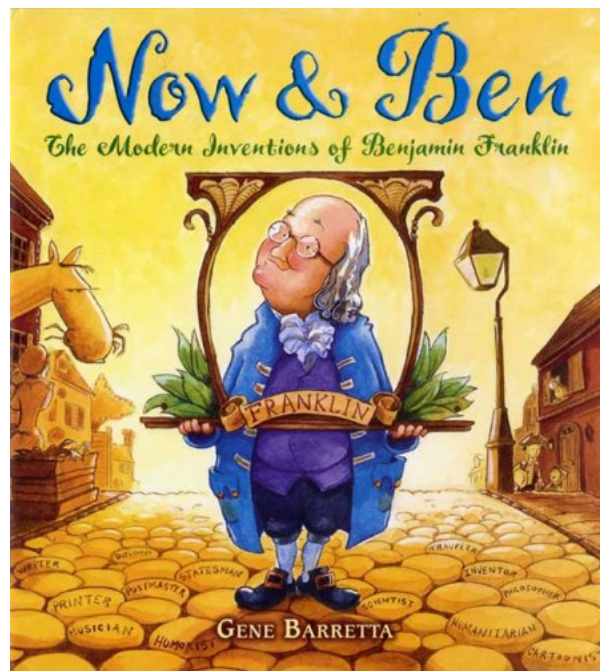
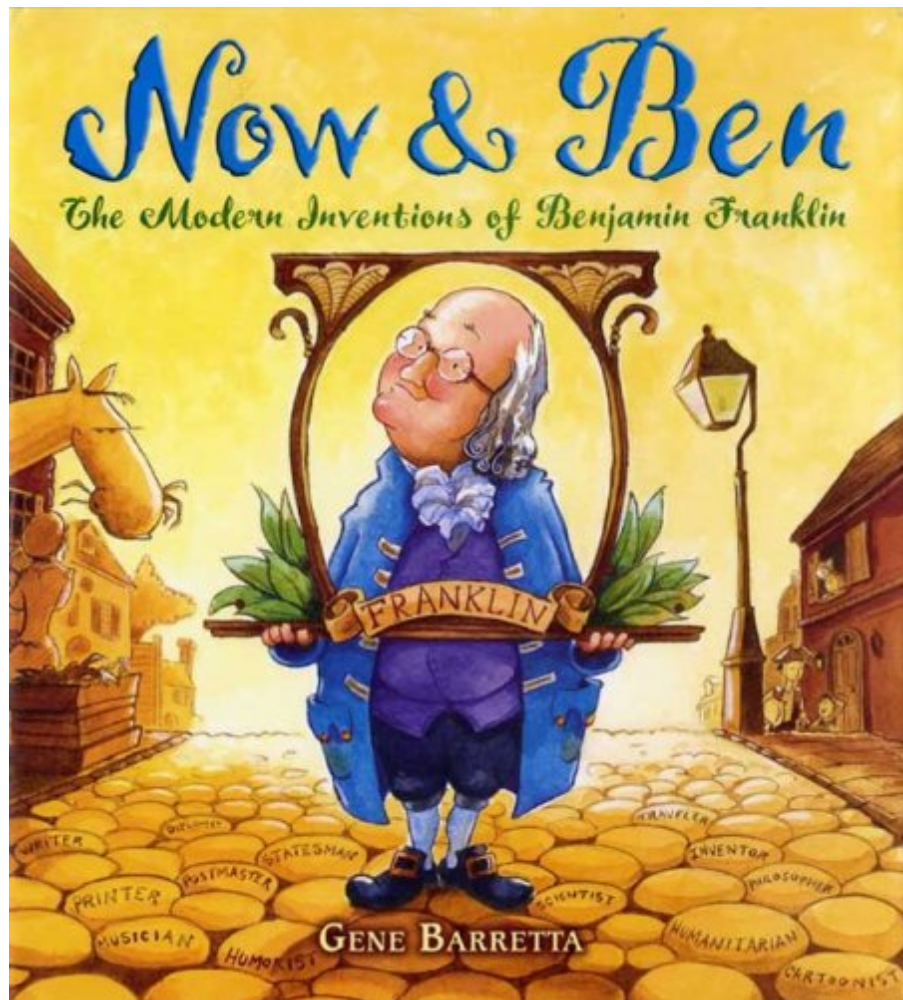


# NOW & BEN: THE MODERN INVENTIONS OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BY GENE BARRETTA



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From School Library Journal

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## Review

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The inventions and inspiration of Benjamin Franklin and how they've stood the test of time

What would you do if you lived in a community without a library, hospital, post office, or fire department? If you were Benjamin Franklin, you'd set up these organizations yourself. Franklin also designed the lightning rod, suggested the idea of daylight savings time, and invented bifocals—all inspired by his common sense and intelligence. In this informative book, Gene Barretta brings Benjamin Franklin's genius to life, deepening our appreciation for one of the most influential figures in American history.

Now & Ben is a 2007 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

- Sales Rank: #17182 in Books
- Brand: Square Fish
- Published on: 2008-12-23
- Released on: 2008-12-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.05" h x .17" w x 9.02" l, .36 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 40 pages

## Features

- Great product!

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#### Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

used it for a school report

By M. Heiss

We had a school report on a famous American, and my little sweetie chose Ben Franklin. For the book report part of the project, we used the book "Ben Franklin's Big Shock," but for project ideas and illustrations, you simply can not beat this book. It's very fun and funny, and yet still instructive.

This is a very worthwhile book, and it sets those little inventor wheels spinning inside their little heads.

Lovely.

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful.

Big Ben

By Anne B. Levy

Ben Franklin's probably the #1 subject of picture book biographies that cross my desk. He's picturesque --

both visually and as a bio subject. This is the first book I've chosen to review, however, because of its clever format and quirky execution.

On one side is "Now" -- the modern amenities we take for granted, such as odometers, second hands, bifocals, lightening rods and even public libraries. The "Ben" side shows Franklin puttering, tinkering, and hunkering down over his inventions, which include all of the above, plus charting the Gulf Stream, organizing the Post Office, and all that fun with lightening and kites and stuff.

Such a clever fellow, that Ben!

And that's not even getting into his statesmanship and political thinking, which the author treats lightly to focus on the man's inventive genius.

The "Now" side of the page is perky and vibrant in bright blues, while Franklin's 18th century half is awash in faded siennas, the color of aging documents, except for Ben in his blue coat, creating a visual link between our era and his.

I know from the brief time I lived in a Philly suburb how omnipresent are the many reminders of the man's influence, from Independence Hall to the Franklin Museum. The city's infused with awe for the man who was arguably our nuttiest Founding Father. But aren't the oddballs the ones you most want to know?

Like Barretta, a Philly resident, you won't be able to resist getting better acquainted.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

My children loved it!!!

By Diane Marie Kelly

My children (ages 6 - 10) loved the story of Ben Franklin. They enjoyed learning of Ben's inventions and it was fun to talk about how they have evolved over time. The children especially loved the last scene depicting how things will evolve as they grow older. The illustrations and colors on every page were great for the imagination and provided so much insight to every part of the story. Great Job. A+

See all 43 customer reviews...



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