

READING ESCAPE



6 PASSAGES

READING #1

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most important figures in the United States. He was a writer, a statesman, and an inventor. He is known for his work in America's history, including his role in the American Revolution and his invention of the lightning rod.

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was the 15th of 17 children. He came from a very poor family. Before he got to school, Benjamin had to leave school to work with his father who was a candle maker. Later, he worked as a printer. Although he did not have a formal education, Benjamin loved to learn and gained much of his knowledge through self-teaching.

DECODER

A =	G =
B =	H =
C =	I =
D =	J =
E =	K =

READING #2

When he was 17, Franklin moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Using his experience from his time at his brother's shop, Benjamin began working as an apprentice. In 1723, Franklin bought the Pennsylvania newspaper in 1729. He became known throughout the American colonies.

In 1732, he began publishing Richard's Almanac, one of his most famous publications. The Almanac was published anonymously under the name of Richard Saunders. Franklin was able to make the annual publication successful by selling the annual publication for 25 years.

The Almanac contained a great deal of information that was useful to farmers, tradesmen, and ordinary people. It included weather predictions, and other useful information. Franklin's Almanac was a great success.

DECODER

A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I
J	K	L
M	N	O
P	Q	R
S	T	U
V	W	X
Y	Z	

READING #3

Benjamin Franklin was responsible for the "Join, or Die" drawing, which includes parts of a snake that represented the colonies. His drawing first appeared in the colonies on May 9, 1754. The popular snake drawing is recognized as the first political cartoon in the United States. The cartoon was widely circulated and quickly became a symbol of colonial unity and resistance. The origins of the cartoon can be traced back to the Albany Congress of 1754, which was called to discuss the ongoing conflict between the colonies and the British.

From the first Postmaster General, Benjamin Franklin was responsible for overseeing the colonies.

DECODER

1	2	3
D	B	E
K		H
	P	N
T	R	
Z	X	V

READING #4

Besides an active political role in America's independence, Franklin was also a scientist and inventor. He is most known for his kite experiment in 1752. Through his experiments, he proved that lightning was electricity.

DECODER

A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I
J	K	L
M	N	O
P	Q	R
S	T	U
V	W	X
Y	Z	

READING #5

In 1774, as Britain continued to enforce taxes and laws on the colonies, Franklin suggested the colonies meet at the First Continental Congress. Later, Franklin was chosen as the delegate of Pennsylvania who would attend the Second Continental Congress. After the war began, the Second Continental Congress began writing the Declaration of Independence. Franklin was one of the five writers chosen to draft the document, along with Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Robert Livingston.

Franklin was later sent to France to negotiate the Treaty of Paris in 1783, along with John Adams and John Jay. Franklin's reputation as a skilled diplomat was well known.

Franklin was also a delegate at the 1787 Constitutional Convention, where the new Constitution of the United States was written.

DECODER

A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I
J	K	L
M	N	O
P	Q	R
S	T	U
V	W	X
Y	Z	

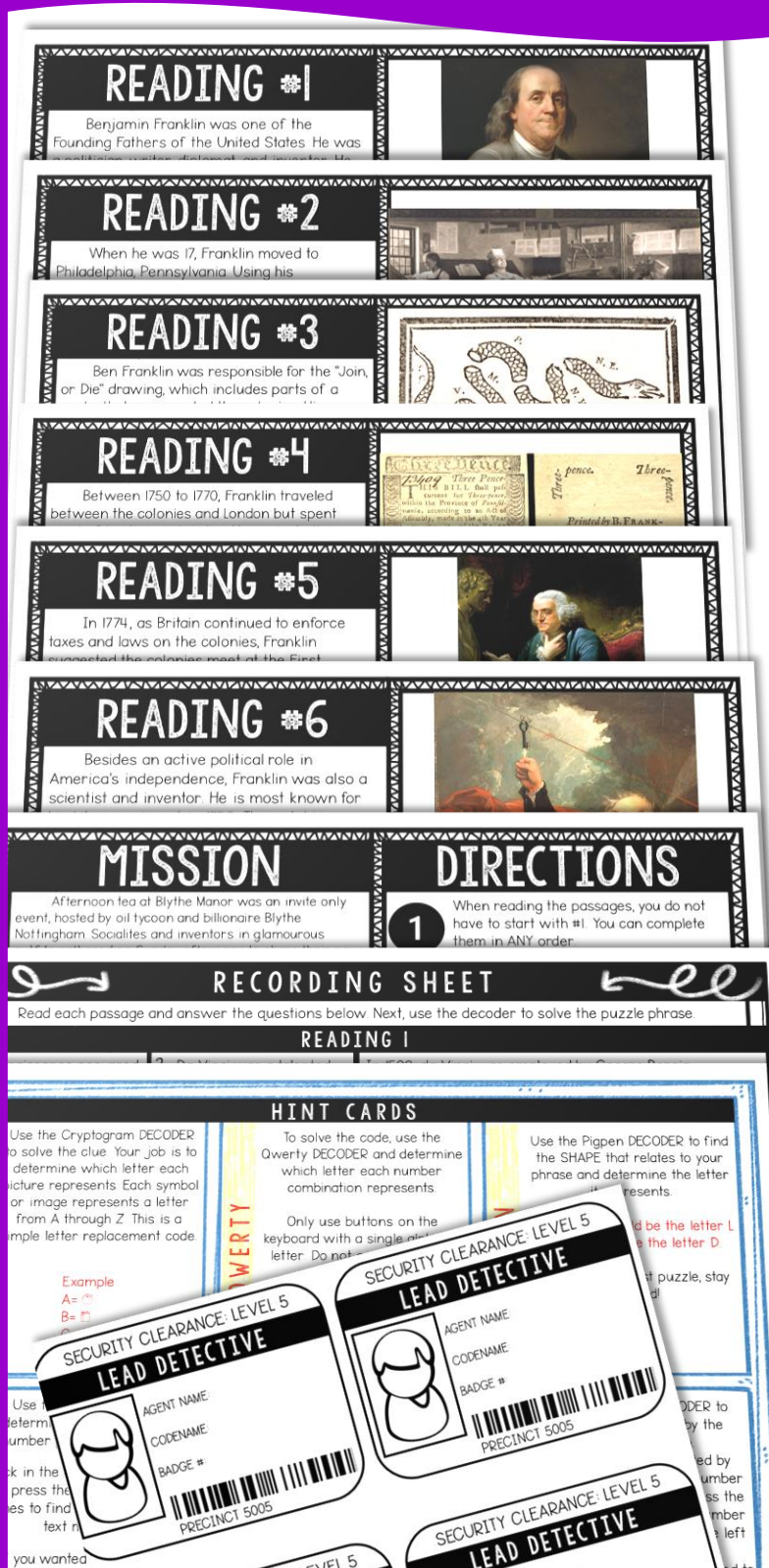
READING #6

Franklin was also a delegate at the 1787 Constitutional Convention, where the new Constitution of the United States was written.

DECODER

A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I
J	K	L
M	N	O
P	Q	R
S	T	U
V	W	X
Y	Z	

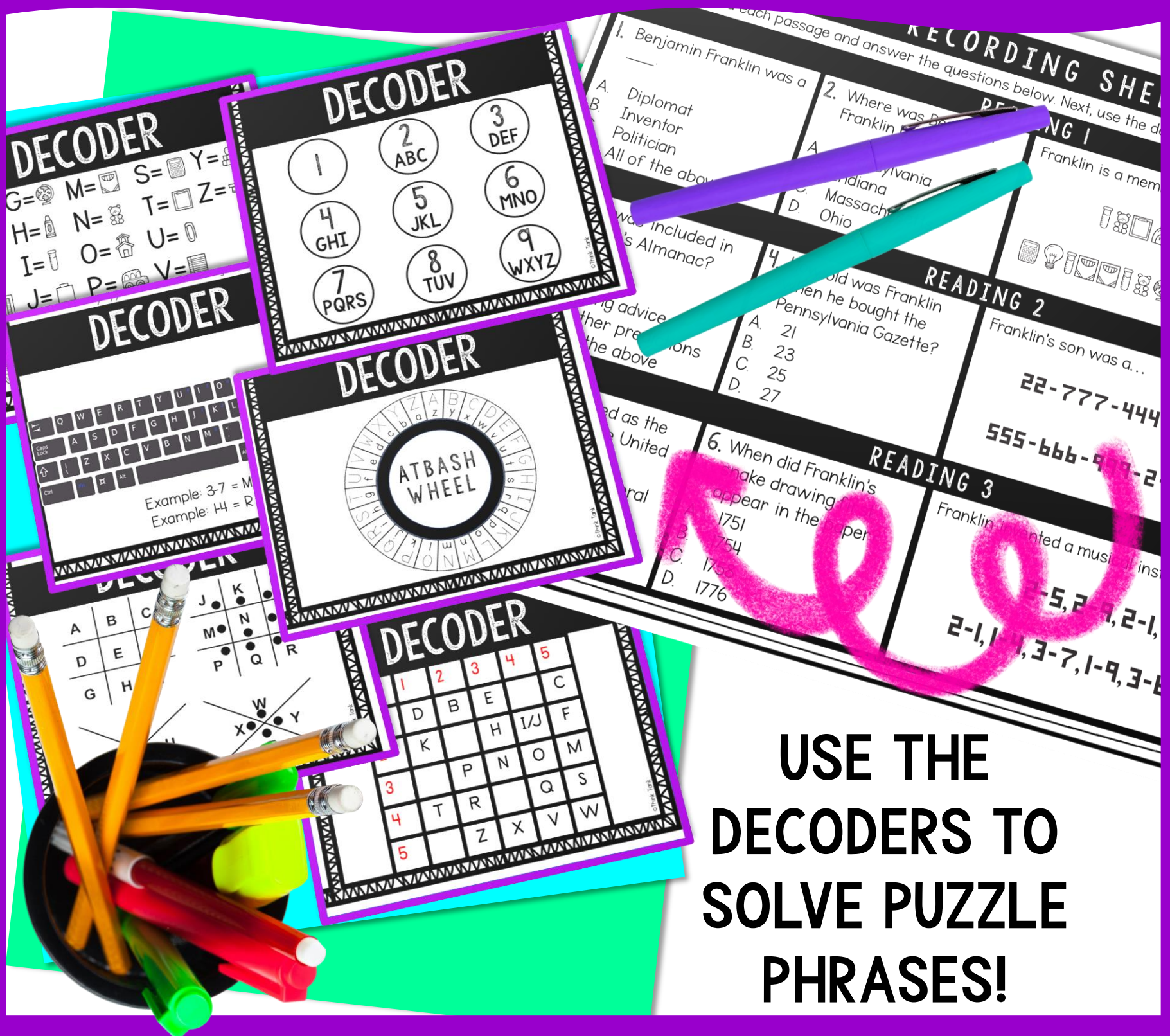
WHAT'S INCLUDED?



- ✓ 6 Half page passages
- ✓ 6 Puzzle decoders
- ✓ 12 Multiple choice Q's
- ✓ Teacher guide
- ✓ Answer key
- ✓ Student directions
- ✓ Hint cards



PUZZLE TYPES



USE THE
DECODERS TO
SOLVE PUZZLE
PHRASES!

NO PREP!



HOW IT WORKS

ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1

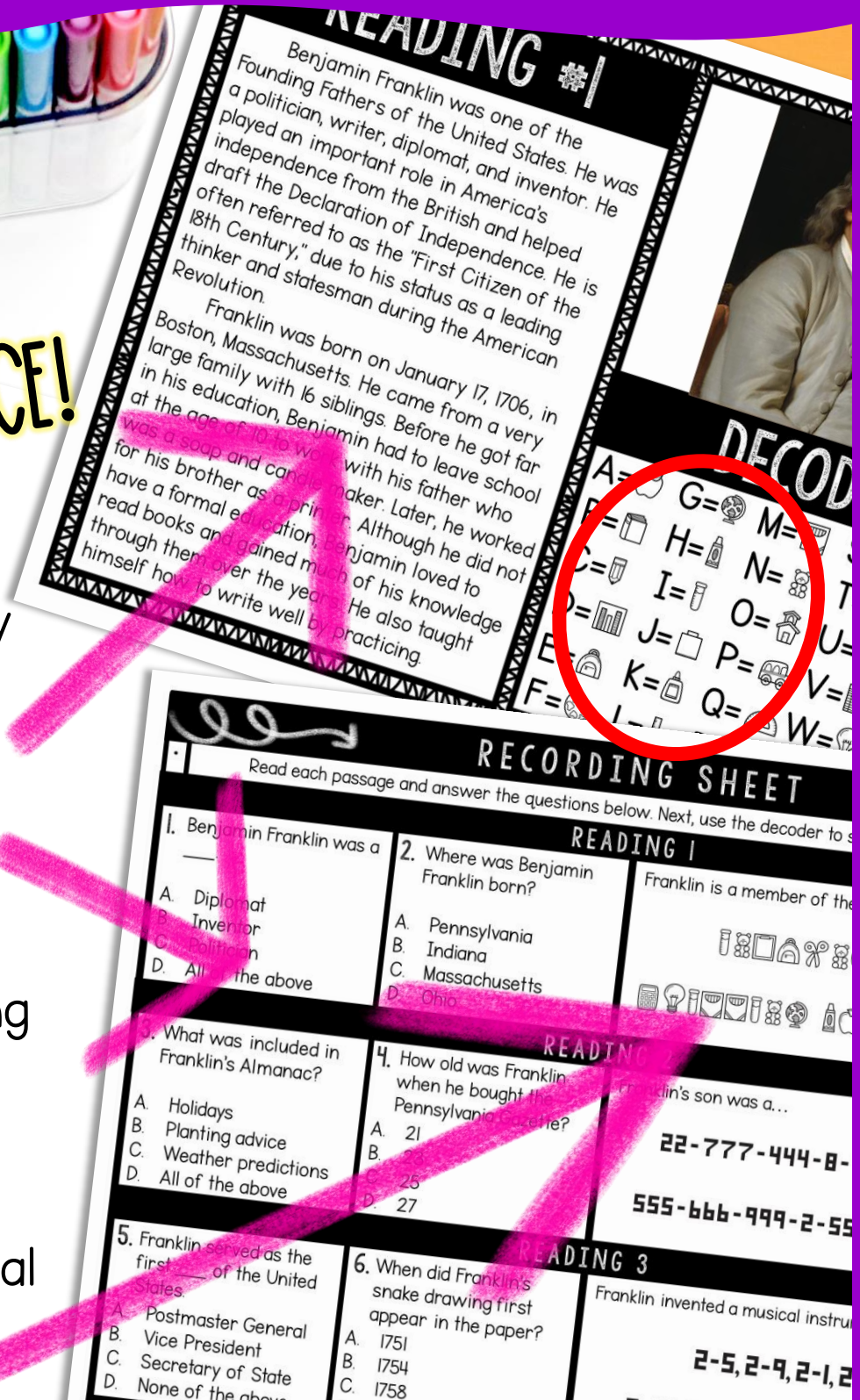
Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit SIX reading stations.

2

Students will answer the questions related to that passage on their recording sheet.

3

Students will use that specific “decoder” to reveal a “clue” about the topic.



BENEFITS & USE



- ✎ ANTICIPATORY SETS
- ✎ UNIT REVIEW
- ✎ EARLY FINISHERS
- ✎ STATIONS
- ✎ SUB PLANS
- ✎ PARTNER WORK
- ✎ ENRICHMENT

- ✎ NO PREP
- ✎ PRINT AND GO
- ✎ CROSS-CURRICULAR
- ✎ HIGHLY ENGAGING