

## **How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning, by Rosa Schanzer Harper Collins Publishers, 2003**

### SYNOPSIS-

*Ben Franklin was the most famous American in the entire world during colonial times. No wonder! After all, the man could do just about anything. Why, he was an author, an athlete, a patriot, a scientist and an inventor to boot. He even found a way to steal the lightning right out of the sky. Is such a thing possible? - Harper Collins Publishers, 2003*

### THEMES-

inventors and inventions, electricity, famous historical figures

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR-

[www.childrensbookguild.org/schanzer.htm](http://www.childrensbookguild.org/schanzer.htm)  
[www.authortracker.com/a](http://www.authortracker.com/a)

### ACTIVITIES-

1. After reading *How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning*, ask your students to recall the items invented by Benjamin Franklin. Then ask them to explore other phenomenal inventions and inventors at <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/inventors/>.
2. After reading *How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning*, discuss with your students how the inventions of Ben Franklin provided people with more safety. Visit the National Weather Service's website on lightning safety, <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/>. Share the lightning safety power point for kids, or have your students explore lightning safety themselves on this website or within the list of sites below:  
<http://www.kidslightning.info/zaphome.htm>  
<http://www.lightningsafety.com/>