

PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday 22nd April

For Immediate Release

Free Family Storytelling Day at Benjamin Franklin House Promotes Learning Outside the Classroom

As part of National Family Week's Story Time programme, Benjamin Franklin House will be hosting a Storytelling day on Wednesday the 27th of May. Celebrating the oldest art form in the world, between 11am and 12 noon, parents and children will share an inspiring journey into Franklin's childhood with tales of his youth in the American colonies. Taking full advantage of the remarkable historical setting of Benjamin Franklin House, children will also learn about Georgian London and what life would have been like for them if they had been born three-hundred years ago. In addition to the storytelling session, visitors will be given a tour of the Grade I listed house, the world's only surviving Franklin home, an opportunity to see inside a building in which important scientific discoveries were made, and was also a family home.

Entirely free of charge for children and guardians, this is a unique opportunity to sample what Benjamin Franklin House has to offer as an exceptional and dynamic education centre. The didactic activities hosted at Benjamin Franklin House provide children of all backgrounds with an opportunity to awaken and nurture a creative curiosity about history, science and invention through experiments and demonstrations based on Franklin's scientific discoveries. Furthermore, materials and activities based on 18th century medicine allow children to share what they already know about the human body whilst

learning about the way in which anatomy was understood by surgeons of the period, such as the house's former resident William Hewson.

Every Tuesday the House closes to the public to allow free visits for school groups to the House and its Student Science Centre. Diverse and dynamic, the educational programmes at Benjamin Franklin House take learning outside the classroom and provide an invaluable resource for enlivening interest in science and the past. Unparalleled by typical classroom activities, the didactic activities at Benjamin Franklin House engage and enthuse children in an unique manner, sustaining Dr. Franklin's near insatiable spirit of invention and enquiry for future generations.

For more information on the House and our education programme, or high resolution images, please visit our website at:

www.BenjaminFranklinHouse.org/site/sections/education/default.htm or

contact Sarah Chaney, Marketing & Development Manager, on 020 7839

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Notes to Editors

1. Benjamin Franklin House is located at 36 Craven Street, WC2N 5NF. Opened to the public on Franklin's 300th birthday, 17th January 2006, the House exists as a new kind of museum, using cutting edge technology in the Historical Experience, enriching educational experiences through its free schools programme, and providing regular special events and lectures.
2. The House is open to the public every day except Tuesdays, when we open free to school groups, with regular family events during school holidays. Historical and architectural guided tours take place on Mondays (priced £3.50), and the Historical Experience on Wednesday through to Sunday and Bank Holidays (£7 adults, £5 concessions, free

for under 16s, running at 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3:15 and 4:15). There is a small shop onsite.