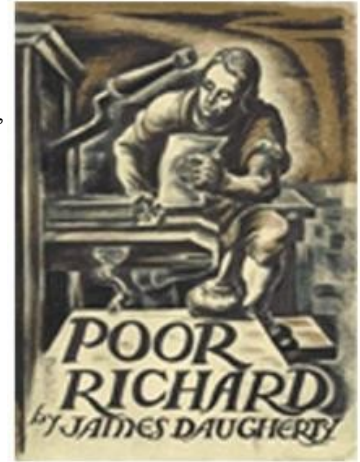


Math Word Problems from Poor Richard

Problems based on the [Singapore Primary Math series, level 3A](#). For your reading pleasure, I have translated the problems into the universe of a well-written biography of Ben Franklin, [Poor Richard](#) by James Daugherty.



Milk Street — Boston, 1706

Ben helped his father make 650 tallow candles. After selling some, they had 39 candles left. How many candles did they sell?

Printer's Ink — 1718

Ben sold 830 newspapers. His brother James sold 177 fewer newspapers than Ben.

- (a) How many newspapers did James sell?
- (b) How many newspapers did they sell altogether?

The Water American — London, 1724

Ben loved to visit the London book shops. In one small shop, there were 6 shelves of books. Each shelf held the same number of books. There were 30 books altogether. How many books were there on each shelf?

A Shop of Your Own — Philadelphia, 1726

Ben and his friends made a club called “The Junto” to read books and discuss ideas. Ben read 7 science books. He read 5 times as many history books as science books. How many more history books than science books did he read?

Industry and Frugality — 1732

Ben collected donations for many worthy organizations. He had 2467 pounds in a bank account to start a new hospital. A friend gave him another 133 pounds. How much more money must Ben collect if he needs 3000 pounds for the hospital?

An American in Paris — 1776-1785

While in France to negotiate a treaty, Ben went to a fancy party. There were 1930 women at the party. There were 859 fewer men than women. How many people were at the party altogether?