

STEP INTO READING®

math • reading paragraphs

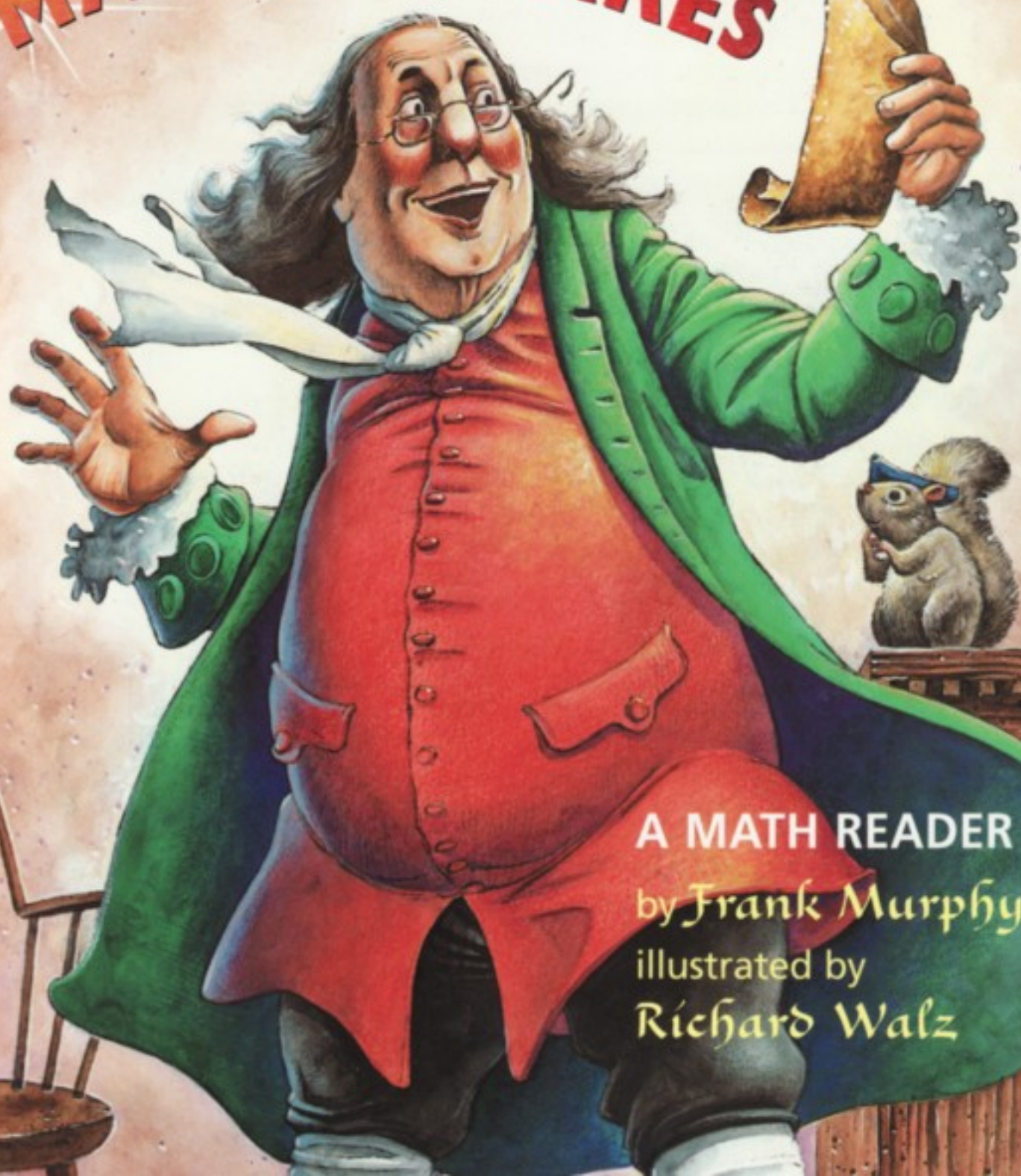
STEP

4

Ben Franklin

and the

MAGIC SQUARES



A MATH READER

by Frank Murphy

illustrated by

Richard Walz



Over 200 years ago, when America was just 13 colonies, there lived a super smart guy. You may have heard of him. His name was Benjamin Franklin. But most people called him Ben.

This story is about how Ben invented magic squares. But first, there are a few things you need to know about this great man . . .

... flew the kite in a thunderstorm!

This was *not* a safe thing to do. But Ben *did* find out that lightning was made of electricity.



Experiments with electricity, 1752

And electricity is used today as well!

He drew a square. Then he drew two lines going up and down and two lines going left and right. This made nine boxes in one big box.

Ben wrote a different number in each box.

5	7	3
2	4	9
8	1	6

He stared at the box of numbers. He waited for an idea to pop into his head.





# STEP INTO READING®

math • reading paragraphs

It's time for YOU!  
Pick your favorite  
spot to read.  
This is going to be  
a great book!

What this book is about . . .

## Ben Franklin and the Magic Squares

Ben Franklin is famous for his clever sayings, discoveries, and inventions. Read all about them in this true story of his life!



## Learning to Read, Step by Step!



**Ready to Read**    **Preschool–Kindergarten**



**Reading with Help**    **Preschool–Grade 1**



**Reading on Your Own**    **Grades 1–3**

To learn about  
all the Steps,  
turn to page 1.



**Reading Paragraphs**    **Grades 2–3**

Does your child read simple sentences with confidence?  
Newly independent readers are ready for Step 4.

**Challenging Vocabulary • Short Paragraphs • Exciting Fiction and Nonfiction**



**Ready for Chapters**    **Grades 2–4**

US \$3.99 / \$5.99 CAN

ISBN 0-375-80621-0



**PARENTS:** This Math Reader reinforces addition and problem-solving using Ben Franklin's magic square puzzle.



**RANDOM HOUSE**  
[www.stepintoreading.com](http://www.stepintoreading.com)