

James Ferguson (1710-1776) was a Scottish astronomer, instrument and globe maker. Ferguson's globes were inspired by the early 18th Century globes of John Senex but he also designed his own pocket globe. Ferguson was born near Rothiemay in Banffshire of humble parents. His only formal education was three months at a grammar school at the age of seven. He worked as a servant with a miller, as an assistant to a doctor, and as a housekeeper before he decided to pursue painting in Edinburgh and Inverness. In 1743 he moved to London and began lecturing on experimental philosophy and scientific subjects. He died in London in 1776.

