





The Great Fire of London

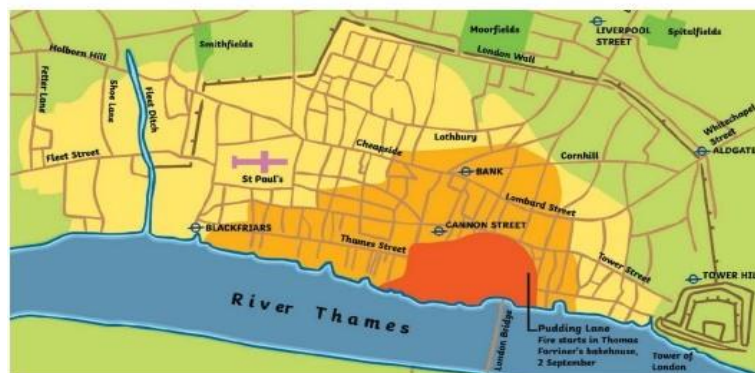
History

Willow

Overview
Subject - History
As historians, children will learn all about the Great Fire of London, including its causes and consequences. They will also explore some of the other factors linked to the fire, including how people lived in the mid-17th century. They will link this knowledge to what they know from Y1 history. Crucially, in this unit, children will begin to explore disciplinary knowledge in history, and how historians use evidence about the past from various sources to help them to understand events that are beyond living memory.
Enquiry question
Did the Great Fire make London a better place?

Previous Knowledge
What should I already know or be able to do?
KS1 – My Family History (1960s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know that shopping for food was done at several shops such as bakeries and butchers, rather than at one supermarket. Know that people generally lived in much better houses than they do now. Use primary and secondary sources to find out about the past.
Historical skills and knowledge
What will I know or be able to do by the end of this unit?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how our own lives are different from past generations of our own families. Use terms such as year, decade and century to describe the past. Order events in a period of history and begin to recall dates of important festivals or celebrations. Use stories of famous historical figures to compare aspects of life in different times. Describe how people, places and events in our own local area have changed over time. Ask and answer questions about a range of historical sources. Use a range of resources to build a 'bigger picture' of a historical period.
Text Link
Toby and the Great Fire of London by Margaret Nash

Artefacts
 <p>An eyewitness, Samuel Pepys, wrote a recount of the fire in his famous diary.</p>
 <p>A fire squirt which was used to put out fires in the 17th century.</p>
 <p>A burnt plate recovered from Pudding Lane.</p>
 <p>This leather bucket is typical of the kind used to fight fires in the 1600s.</p>



Spread of the Fire
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday 2nd September 1666 Monday 3rd September 1666 Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5th September 1666

Key Events and Facts	
<u>When and where did the fire start?</u>	<u>Why did the fire spread so quickly?</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sunday 2nd September 1666• Thomas Farriner's Bakery on Pudding Lane.• It lasted for 5 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weather was hot.• No rain for months.• Houses made from wood and straw (flammable).• Houses close together.• Strong winds blowing.
<u>How did people try to put the fire out?</u>	<u>How and when was the fire put out?</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No fire brigade• People used leather buckets and water squirts.• King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down.	<p>By Thursday 6th September, the wind had died down, so people were able to put out the flames.</p>
<u>What happened after the fire?</u>	<u>How many people died?</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13,200 houses were destroyed by the fire.• 70,000 people were left homeless.• An organised fire brigade was established and water engines were de-signed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 people died

Significant person

Samuel Pepys (1633-1703)

Samuel Pepys PRS was an English diarist and naval administrator. He served as administrator of the Royal Navy and Member of Parliament and is most famous for the diary he kept for a decade



London before the Great Fire (1666)

- Commercial heart of England
- Largest market and busiest port in the Country
- Biggest city in England
- Smaller than it is today
- Very few tall buildings
- Buildings made of wood and straw
- Overcrowding
- No fire brigade
- Population: around 500,000



London after the Great Fire (1666)

- Commercial heart of England
- Capital city of England
- Buildings made of stone
- Less crowding
- Water was made easier to access
- New fire rules introduced
- St Paul's Cathedral rebuilt
- The Metropolitan Fire Brigade was formed



Key Vocabulary

Century		A period of one hundred years
diary		A book that people write about their lives in.
eyewitness		A person who saw an event with their own eyes and can therefore describe it.
fire breaks		When buildings are destroyed on purpose to make a gap (break) so the fire can't spread to the next building.
monument		A building, structure, or site that is of historical importance or interest.
Pudding Lane		The street on which the bakery was, where the fire started.
River Thames		A river that flows through southern England including London. At 215 miles, it is the longest river entirely in England and the second-longest in the United Kingdom.
St Paul's Cathedral		A famous church which burnt down during the fire. It was rebuilt and still exists today.
Tower of London		Where the king lived in 1666. It did not catch fire because the fire was stopped just before it reached the palace.