

Spring 1

Year 1 – The Great Fire of London

What can we find out about the Great Fire of London?



Key Vocabulary

bakery	A place where bread and cakes are made and sold.
fire-hooks	Giant hooks used to pull down houses.
diary	A personal record of life events.
eye witness	A person who has seen something and can give a description.
London	The capital city of England.
timeline	The order in which events have happened.
recent	An event that happened not long ago.

Powerful knowledge

- The fire of London started in a bakery in Pudding Lane on 2nd September 1666.
- It hadn't rained for months so the city was very dry. In 1666, lots of people had houses made from wood which burns easily. Houses were built too close together and there was no organised fire brigade.
- To fight the fire, they used leather buckets and squirts filled with water, axes, fire-hooks and gunpowder to make fire-breaks.
- 13,200 houses were destroyed by the fire and 70,000 people were left homeless. Many left London to live elsewhere and some slept in tents.
- Diaries are useful when looking at historical events as they give us real life people's experience of what happened. The diary of Samuel Pepys gives us a fly-on-the-wall account of life during the 17th century and the Great Fire of London.

What I should already know

- Recognise some significant events within own lifetime.

Learning Journey

- To understand what happened during the Great Fire of London.
- To understand what we can learn from diaries during the Great Fire of London.
- To understand origins and results of the Great Fire of London.

NC coverage

Skills:

Historical Comprehension

Events that are significant nationally



Timeline of Events

Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Sunday 2nd September 1666

The fire starts at around 1 a.m.
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.
Thousands of people are left homeless.