

The Great Fire of London 1666 – Key learning

We will learn about significant historical events beyond living memory. We will develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time. We will identify similarities and differences between ways of life now and then. We will ask and answer questions using parts of stories and other sources to help us understand key events. We will learn about some of the ways in which we find out about the past.

Key Questions	Key Vocabulary
When and where did the fire start?	Bakery - a place that makes cakes, bread etc.
Why did the fire start?	St. Paul's Cathedral - a very large church in London. A new cathedral was built after the fire.
Why did the fire spread so quickly?	Diary - a book that people write about their lives in.
How did people try to put the fire out?	Firebreak - a gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.
How and when was the fire put out?	Eye-witness - a person who has seen something and can give a description of it.
Who was the King or Queen in the Year 1666?	River Thames - Many people got on a boat on the River Thames to escape the fire.
How do we know about the fire today?	Fire hooks - Giant hooks used to pull down houses.

Important historical people



King Charles II



Samuel Pepys



Thomas Farriner



Sunday 2nd September 1666 A fire starts in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. As news of the fire spreads, people run to escape its path.

Monday 3rd September 1666 Fire-fighters try to tackle the fire but it spreads quickly. People carry their possessions to safety using a horse and cart or boats on the River Thames.

Tuesday 4th September 1666 Houses are pulled down in an attempt to stop the fire spreading. St. Paul's Cathedral is destroyed.

Wednesday 5th September 1666 The fire starts to burn more slowly as the wind dies down.

Thursday 6th September 1666 The fire is finally under control and put out.