

Key Facts—Great Fire of London

London in 1666

1/5 of the population had died of the Plague in 1665.

England had recently been at war with France, the Netherlands and Spain.

The City of London was a natural fire risk because the houses were crowded together and made of wood.

The Great Fire of London lasted four days.

To fight fires during the 17th Century people had to use leather buckets and fire-fighters did not exist.

Samuel Pepys

Samuel Pepys was an eye witness to the Great Fire of London and his famous diary gives a vivid account of what he saw and how he felt.



History Year 2

Spring 1

Great Fire of London



Samuel Pepys

Great Fire of London—Vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
bakery 	A place where bread or cakes are made and sold
blazing	A brilliant burst of fire
diary	A personal record of life's events
embers	fragments of burning material left as a fire dies
eye witness	A person who has seen something and can give a description of it
fire break	A gap created that acts as a barrier to slow or stop the progress
fire hook	A wooden stick with a metal hook
fire squirt	A pump used to suck up water and then squirt at the fire
ignited	To set fire
monument 	A structure put up to remind us of a person or an event
spark	A tiny flame



Painting of the Great Fire of London



Bakery in 1666



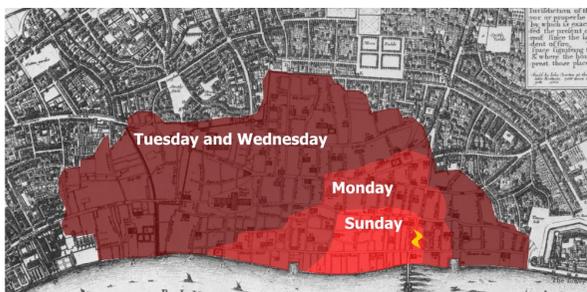
London in the UK

2nd September 1666	3rd September 1666	4th September 1666	5th September 1666	6th September 1666
The fire started in a bakery on Pudding Lane.	It spread quickly as the houses were made of wood.	St Paul's Cathedral caught fire.	The wind died down, the fire started to go out.	The fire stopped. Lost of people lost all of their belongings.



History Year 2

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Key Questions – Great Fire of London

Where did the fire start?

The fire started in Pudding Lane on September 2nd 1666.

Where did the fire start?

It started in a bakery owned by Thomas Fariner.

Why did the fire spread so quickly?

It had been a long, hot, dry summer. The houses were made of wood and the high winds made the fires spread more quickly.

Key Skills

Children will be able to:

- recognise why people did things, why events happened and what happened as a result
- Identify differences between ways of life at different times
- Discuss reliability of photos/ accounts/stories
- use a source - observe or handle sources to answer questions about the past on the basis of simple observations.
- Communicate their **knowledge** through:
 - Discussion...
 - Drawing pictures...
 - Drama/role play..
 - Making models....
 - Writing..
 - Using ICT...

Knowledge and Understanding

What you will learn:

- about some of the ways in which London has changed
- about some of the ways in which how we live now is different and similar to how people lived in 1666.
- how the *Great Fire* started and spread across London.
- how we know about the *Great Fire of London*.
- how London was rebuilt after the *Great Fire*.