



# The Great Fire of London



## Pupils will learn

- I find out about events that are significant nationally or globally – the Great Fire of London.
- I learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past – Samuel Pepys.
- I need to understand and use common words relating to the passing of time.
- I need to be able to identify similarities and differences between ways of life now and in the past.
- I should be able to place certain events on a simple timeline and know which order they come in.

## Important facts

- The Fire of London started on 2nd September 1666 and lasted for 5 days.
- The weather in London was hot and hadn't rained for months.
- Houses in London were mainly built from wood
- which is flammable, especially when it is very dry.
- The houses were also very close together, so fire could easily spread.

### Timeline of events

- 2nd September 1666 – 1.30am: A fire starts in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane in the middle of the night. The fire probably came from the oven.
- 2nd September 1666 – 7am: Samuel Pepys wakes up and finds out that the fire had already burnt down 300 houses!
- 3rd September 1666 – The firemen try to put the fire out by using leather buckets of water and then pulling down houses with fire hooks. They hope this will make a fire break but the fire keeps on spreading.
- 4th September 1666 – St Paul's Cathedral burns down.
- 6th September 1666 – The Fire of London finally stops but many people are left homeless.

## Home Learning Ideas

- Make a house from 17th Century
- Make some bread (see recipe)
- <http://www.fireoflondon.org.uk/game/>

## Books to read at home

- Toby and The Great Fire Of London (Hopscotch: Histories)
- You Wouldn't Want to be in the Great Fire of London!

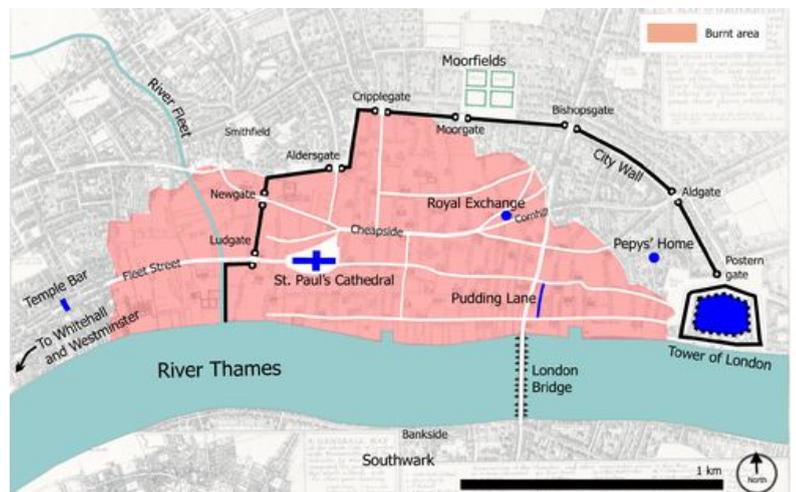
## Inquiry Questions

Was Tom Farriner to blame for the start of the Fire?

What do you think made the fire worse?

How has fighting fires changed since the 17th Century?

## Further Information



## Key Vocabulary

<b>Fire hooks</b>	Giant hooks used to pull houses down	<b>Bakery</b>	A shop where bread and cakes are made
<b>Fire break</b>	When buildings are destroyed to make a break so the fire can't spread to the next building. Flammable: when something burns easily.	<b>Oven</b>	A place where food is cooked. Today we use gas or electricity to heat ovens but in 1666 they burnt wood to heat the oven.
<b>Samuel Pepys</b>	A famous man who wrote a diary about the fire.	<b>Leather bucket</b>	Leather is a material and was what buckets were made from before plastic was invented.
<b>Eyewitness</b>	A person who saw an event and can describe it.	<b>Tower of London</b>	Where the King lived in 1666. It did not catch fire because the fire was stopped just before it reached the Tower.
<b>St Paul's Cathedral:</b>	A famous Christian church which burnt down during the fire. It was rebuilt.	<b>King Charles II</b>	The King of England in 1666.
<b>Flammable</b>	When something burns easily.		
<b>Materials</b>	The matter from which a thing is or can be made from.	<b>Characteristics</b>	Feature or quality belonging typically to a person or thing which can identify them.
<b>Rear</b>	The back part of something.	<b>Comparison</b>	Looking at the similarities and differences between two or more people or things.

\* Words in grey are Tier 2 (non-topic specific) vocabulary