

Year Group: KS1

Unit: Why was the Fire of London so Great?

Subject: History

Key Vocabulary

17th Century

From the year 1601 to 1700. The Great Fire of London happened in the 17th Century, in 1666. This was 357 years ago.

Diary

A notebook where people write about their lives.



Rebuilt

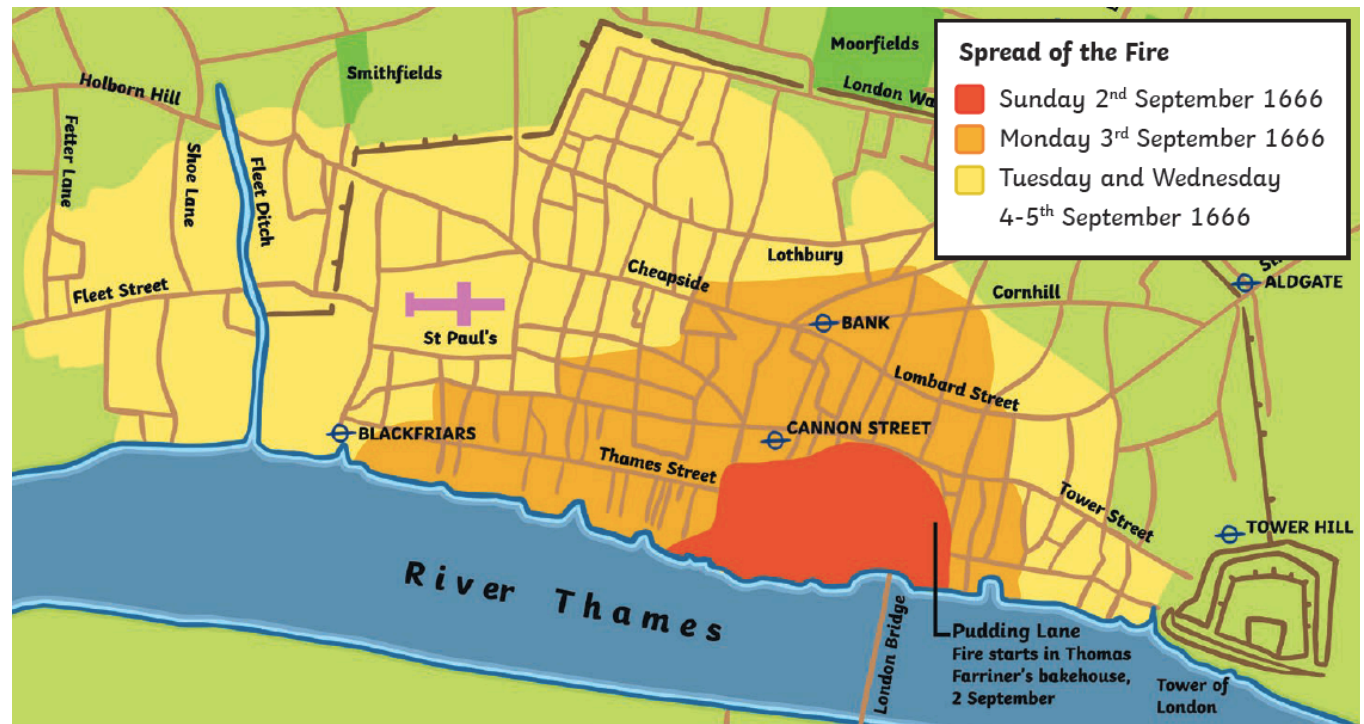
Building something again after it has been broken or destroyed.

St Paul's Cathedral

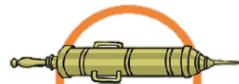
A very large church in London. St Paul's Cathedral was rebuilt after the fire.



Key Knowledge



axe



water squirt



fire hook



leather water bucket

Big Ideas

Chronology
Change
Enquiry
Culture

Key People



Samuel Pepys



Sir Christopher Wren



King Charles II

Key Knowledge

Big Ideas: Chronology, Change, Enquiry & Culture

How has London changed?



In 1666, houses were made of wood. People travelled by horse and carts on the streets, and by wooden boats on the River Thames. In the present, houses are made of brick, steel and glass. People travel by car and bus.

What was life like in the 17th century?



Some jobs were different, such as rat catcher and gong farmer. Some jobs were the same as today, such as fire fighter and cook.

What happened in the Great Fire of London?



The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane, and it spread quickly. People used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out, but it did not work. King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames from spreading. By Thursday 6th September, the wind had died down. This meant that people were able to put out the flames.

How do we know about the Great Fire of London?



Samuel Pepys' **diary** tells us about the fire and how it spread. This is a reliable primary source. We can also use paintings and newspaper reports from the time.

What happened after the Great Fire of London?



King Charles II ordered that buildings should be **rebuilt** from brick or stone, and that streets should be made wider. This was to stop a big fire from happening again.

Timeline

Big Idea: Chronology



Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.



Samuel Pepys

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**.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Thursday 6th September 1666

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