

Key Knowledge

Sunday 2nd September 1666	1am – The fire begins. 3am – The Lord Mayor goes to look at the fire, but decides it is not too bad, so goes back to bed. 7am – The fire has spread rapidly. 11am – The Mayor orders the pulling down of houses, having been instructed by the King, who was informed by Samuel Pepys. 3pm – The King sails down the River Thames to observe the fire.
Monday 3rd September 1666	The government order fire posts to be set up Midday – The fire can be seen 60 miles away in Oxford. Half the city has been destroyed.
Tuesday 4th September 1666	The fire reaches its peak. A number of prisons and St Paul's Cathedral are destroyed. The fire narrowly misses the Tower of London. 11pm – The wind begins to die down
Wednesday 5th September 1666	The wind changes direction, blowing the fire towards the River Thames. Most of the remaining fires have been put out.
Thursday 6th September 1666	The final fires are extinguished.
Pudding Lane	Where Thomas Farriner's bakery was where a spark from his oven is thought to have started the fire.
Thomas Farriner	A baker in Pudding Lane in London.
Christopher Wren	An architect who rebuilt London after the fire.
Samuel Pepys	An navy administrator and Member of Parliament who is famous for the diary he kept for a decade
River Thames	Flows through London and acted as a natural barrier to the fire. Many people used it to escape to safety on boats.
London	Capital city of England, home of the King and where the Great Fire occurred in September 1666
Firefighting	There was no fire brigade, so people used leather buckets to throw water on fires. They also used water squirts and fire hooks to pull down buildings to stop the fire from spreading.
Architecture	After the fire no houses were allowed to have an upper floor that jugged out further than the ground floor. All buildings had to be built of brick or stone.



Fire Fire!!! Year 2 KCV History/Geography Year A

Key Concept Questions

- What were the causes of The Great Fire of London?
- Why did the fire spread so quickly and so far?
- Why did it take such a long time to out the fire out?
- How did house building change as a result of the fire?
- How can we find out about The Great Fire of London?
- How did fire fighting improve because of the fire?
- Why is Samuel Pepys diary important?

Key Vocabulary

Bakery	A shop where cakes and bread are made.
flammable	Burns easily
timber	Wood
Fire hooks	Giant hooks used to pull houses down.
Fire break	Gaps created by destroying buildings so that the fire cannot spread
Eyewitness	A person who saw an event with their own eyes and can describe what happened
Cathedral	Largest, most important church in an area. Christian place of worship
Sources	A text, document, or image that we can gain information from
Lord Mayor	The mayor of a big city (London in this case)
Monument	Statue, building or other structure built to remember a person or event
Diary	A book that people write about their lives in.
Thatched roof	A roof made from straw and reeds.
Embers	Small pieces of glowing coal or wood in a dying fire.
Fire squirt	A pump used to suck up water then squirt it at the fire.

