

The Great Fire of London

Key vocabulary

YEAR 2

firebreak	A gap that stops fire spreading to nearby buildings.
fire hook	Long rods with hooked ends used to pull buildings down to stop flames from spreading.
blaze	A bright flame or fire.
disaster	A calamitous event, especially one occurring suddenly and causing great loss of life, damage, or hardship.
significant	Important and deserving of attention.
diary	A daily record of the writer's own experiences, observations, feelings, attitudes, etc.
century	A period of 100 years.
explosion	An act or instance of exploding; a violent expansion or bursting with noise.
Industrial	Resulting from industry. Industry - Trading and manufacturing of products.

When did the Great Fire of London start?

It started in a bakery, on Pudding Lane, London on 2nd September 1666.



Sticky Knowledge

Who documented the fire in a famous diary?

Samuel Pepys

It burnt for 4 days and destroyed 80% of the city.

Why did the fire spread so quickly?

The houses were made from wood and built close together.
High winds caused the fire to spread.



Samuel Pepys
1633 - 1703

What changes have been made to modern Britain since the fire?

Houses are made from brick/stone.
Wider streets.
Fire brigade.

Historians study, interpret, and communicate the past to help us understand historical events, cultures, and their relevance today.

The Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead

was an industrial disaster and was much shorter. There was a higher death toll with 53 deaths compared to approx. 9 in London.

