

Year 2 Knowledge Organiser Why is the Great Fire of London Great?

Skills

Chronological understanding

- Sequence photographs etc. from different periods of their life
- Describe memories of key events in lives

Depth of historical knowledge

- Recognise why people did things, why events happened and what happened as a result
- Identify differences between ways of life at different times

Interpretations of history

- Compare 2 versions of a past event
- Compare pictures or photographs of people or events in the past
- Discuss reliability of photos/ accounts/stories

Historical enquiry

- Use a source – observe or handle sources to answer questions about the past on the basis of simple observations.

Organisation and communication

- Communication their knowledge through: Discussion...Drawing pictures...Drama/role play...Making models...

Knowledge

The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.

The fires used for baking were not put out properly.

In 1666, the buildings in London were made of wood and straw and they were very close together, making it easy for the flames to spread. It had also been a dry summer, so the buildings were dry. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.

People used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out, but these did not work. Later in the week, 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.

Key vocabulary	
bakery	A place that makes bread, cakes, etc.
St Paul's Cathedral	A very large church in London. A new St Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.
diary	A book that people write about their lives in.
firebreak	A gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.
Wattle	Wooden strips.
Daub	A mixture of soil, dung, sand and straw.
Past	A time where events happened before today.
Present	Events happening now

Facts
Sunday 2nd September 1666 The fire starts at 1 a.m. Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his diary.
Monday 3rd September 1666 The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.
Tuesday 4th September 1666 St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire
Wednesday 5th September 1666 The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.
Thursday 6th September 1666 The fire is finally put out. Thousands of people are left homeless.
Christopher Wren redesigned London after the Great Fire of London.

Key People

Samuel Pepys Thomas Farriner King Charles II

Key Knowledge

Spread of the Fire

- Red: Sunday 2nd September 1666
- Orange: Monday 3rd September 1666
- Yellow: Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5th September 1666

leather water bucket St Paul's Cathedral
Tower of London axe
water squirt fire hook