

The Great Fire of London – Year 2

Key Questions and Facts

When and where did the fire start?

The fire of London started in a bakery in Pudding Lane on 2nd September 1666.

Why did the fire spread?

It hadn't rained for months so the city was very dry. In 1666, lots of people had houses made from wood which burns easily. Houses were built too close together and there was no organised fire brigade.

How did they fight the fire?

They used leather buckets and squirts filled with water, axes, fire-hooks and gunpowder to make fire-breaks.

How did the fire stop?

The fire burned for 4 days. As the wind died down and changed direction the fire became under control and was finally put out.

Key Vocabulary

bakery	A place that makes bread, cakes and other food.
diary	A book that people write about their lives in.
eyewitness	A person who saw an event happen with their own eyes and can therefore describe it.
firebreak	A gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.
flammable	When something burns easily.
St Paul's Cathedral	A very large church in London. A new St Paul's cathedral was built after the fire.

Significant People

Thomas Farriner



King Charles II



Samuel Pepys



Timeline

<p><u>Sunday 2nd September 1666</u> A fire starts in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. As news of the fire spreads, people run to escape its path.</p>	<p><u>Monday 3rd September 1666</u> Firefighters try to tackle the fire but it spreads quickly. People carry their possessions to safety using a horse and cart or boats on the River Thames.</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 4th September 1666</u> Houses are pulled down in an attempt to stop the fire spreading. St. Paul's Cathedral is destroyed.</p>	<p><u>Wednesday 5th September 1666</u> The fire starts to burn more slowly as the wind dies down.</p>	<p><u>Thursday 6th September 1666</u> The fire is finally under control and put out. People are left homeless.</p>
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