



Year 1 History –How did London change because of the fire?

In this **history** topic, we will explore what happened in London in 1666 and how that changed London. We will look at some sources from the time and consider how we know about what happened and how different people will recall the same events differently.

What I Should Already Know:

- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now.
- How to sort objects into old and new and explain my reasons
- That houses and homes and toys in the past were different to now and be able to describe some differences.

Key Knowledge

When was the Great Fire of London?

The Great Fire of London started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 and ended on Thursday 6th September 1666.

Where did the fire start?

The fire started in a bakery on Pudding Lane.

Why did the fire spread so quickly?

In 1666, the buildings in London were very close together and many were made of wood and had straw roofs.

What happened after the fire?

After the fire, many buildings were rebuilt. King Charles II ordered that buildings were built further apart and made of stone to make sure the fire could not happen again so easily.



Samuel Pepys



Sir Christopher Wren



King Charles II

Key Vocabulary

Timeline	A timeline is a tool that organises information. It is used to describe the order in which events happened.
Source	something that provides information about history
London	The capital city of England.
rebuild	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 by Sir Christopher Wren after the fire
River Thames	The river that runs through the middle of London.
17th Century	From the year 1601 to 1700. The Great Fire of London happened in the 17th century, in 1666.
eyewitness	A person who has seen something and can give a description of it

Timeline of Events



We can learn about what happened from art. This is by Lieve Verschuer in 1686.

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.

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**.

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.