

History - events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally



Great Fire of London

Woodchester Endowed Church of England (VA) Primary School

Key Questions

- What happened on September 6th, 1666?
- Why did it spread so quickly?
- How do we know so much about the Great Fire?

Did the Great Fire make London a better or a worse place?

- Better**
- new houses had to be built from brick or stone and further apart
 - many beautiful churches were built
 - people could buy fire insurance
 - the fire brigade was better
- Worse**
- 70,000 people lost their homes
 - more than 80 churches were destroyed
 - 6 people died
 - it took a long time for London to be re-built

Key Facts

How did the fire start?	In Pudding Lane in a bakery. A spark jumped out of the oven. It started in the middle of the night, people were sleeping
How long did it last?	4 days
Why did it spread?	- it had been hot and dry - fire likes this - the wind blew it - houses were close together - many buildings were made of wood
What made it stop?	- fire buckets - gunpowder - fire squirt - less wind - fire hooks
How has London changed since the fire?	- better houses were built - brick / stone - the fire brigade was improved - more beautiful churches were built - people paid for fire insurance

Vocabulary

Now - what happens today

Then - could have happened in the past.

Fire hook - used to pull down houses / buildings that were on fire to help stop the fire spreading

Diary - Samuel Pepys kept a diary. We can find out more about the fire by reading it

Stuart period - the first kings of the UK
- Charles II was one of the kings - was king when the fire happened

