

Year 2 History

Bonfire Night and The Great Fire of London

Should we still celebrate Bonfire Night? Did the Great Fire make London a better or worse place?

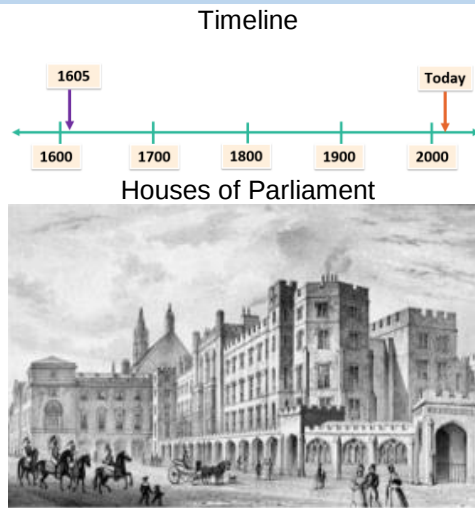
What I should already know:

Bonfire night

Lesson 1: What happened on 5th November 1605?

(Activity: Act out the story as a class. Draw a picture for each part of the Gun Powder Plot story.)

- 1603 King James I came to power
- The Catholics hoped that he would make life better for them. He didn't.
- The Gunpowder Plot was on 5th November 1605. This was a conspiracy to 'blow up' the Houses of Parliament when King James I would have been in attendance.
- Guy Fawkes is remembered of the 13 plotters. He was discovered in the cellars beneath the Palace of Westminster hours before he was due to light the fuse to ignite 36 barrels of gunpowder.
- Bonfire Night is 5th November.



treason	<i>Betray your own country.</i>
plot	<i>A plan made in secret.</i>
Catholic	<i>A Christian based religion who follow the Pope.</i>
Protestant	<i>A Christian based religion who disagreed with the Catholics.</i>

Lesson 2: Was Guy Fawkes a hero or a villain?

(Activity: Write a list of reasons why Guy Fawkes was a hero or villain under the pictures.)

- Guy Fawkes was a Catholic and the King was a Protestant. It was illegal to worship any religion other than the Church of England. People who did could be fined or put in jail.
- When King James I took the throne, Catholics thought he would make their lives better. This did not happen, so they plotted to get rid of him.

Guy Fawkes



hero	<i>A person who is admired for their brave acts.</i>
villain	<i>The opposite of a hero – someone who commits a criminal act.</i>
terrorist	<i>A person who has an extreme political or religious belief against a person or a government that is prepared to commit a criminal act.</i>

Lesson 3: Do we celebrate Bonfire Night now just to have fun?(Activity: [Reasons for and Against celebrating Bonfire Night – table format](#))

- Thanksgiving Act 1605 - 5th November was a national day to celebrate the failure of the plot.
- It was a very anti-Catholic day and effigies of the Pope were burned.
- The law was repealed in 1859.
- Now celebrated with fireworks, an array of food and family/friends.

Bonfire Night Then and Now**customs**

A custom is a commonly accepted manner of behaving or doing something in a particular society.

tradition

A tradition is the transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation.

commemorate

Marking an event through celebrations or respect,

effigy

A roughly made model of a person that is made in order to be damaged or destroyed publicly.

law

The rules of a country enforced by the imposition of penalties.

repeal

The action of revoking a law.

Lesson 4: What happened in London on 2nd September 1666?(Activity: [sequence the Great Fire events. Which do you think is the most important event in the story of the Great Fire of London and, why?](#))

- Sunday 2 September 1666, a fire broke out at Thomas Farriner's, the King's baker, in Pudding Lane.
- Samuel Pepys recorded the event in his diary.
- Sunday evening – houses were pulled down to try and stop the fire.
- Monday - the fire spread close to the Tower of London.
- Tuesday – St Paul's Cathedral was destroyed by the fire.
- Wednesday – the wind started to die down.
- Thursday – the fire was put out

**Stuart period**

The Stuart era began when James I, who was also James VI of Scotland, succeeded Elizabeth I. 1603, until 1714.

cause

Make something happen.

plague

A disease causing a high rate of death. The Great Plague killed one-fifth of its population.

sources

The starting point.

Lesson 5: Why did the fire spread so quickly?

(Activity: Create a mind map about why the Great fire spread so quickly.)

- There was no fire brigade to help put the fire out.
- The houses were made from wood with thatched roofs.
- The houses were built close together.
- People used candles for lights and heat came from fires.
- The bakery was in London.
- There wasn't any reliable equipment to fight the fire (some of the equipment weren't easy to move and didn't have wheels).

Firefighting equipment at the time of the Great Fire.



cause	<i>Make something happen.</i>
water squirt	<i>A pump used to suck up water and then squirt it at the fire.</i>
fire bucket	<i>Made from leather with a rope handle, only held a small amount of water and were passed along a line of people towards the fire.</i>
fire hook	<i>Used to pull down buildings in an attempt to stop the fire spreading to other buildings.</i>
diary	<i>A book in which a daily record of events is written.</i>

Lesson 6: Why do we know so much about the Great Fire?

(Activity: Write an overall conclusion on whether the Great Fire made London a better or worse place using all the information collected over this unit.)

- Samuel Pepys kept his diary from 1660 until 1669.
- In 1668, new rules were introduced to ensure that any new buildings were further apart from each other. Buildings would also be made from brick and stone.
- It took 30 years to rebuild the city.
- One of the new buildings was St Paul's Cathedral.
- After the fire, improved firefighting techniques were also introduced.
- Hand-pulled fire engines were also introduced.
- In memory of the fire, a memorial was built called the Monument. It stands near where the fire is believed to have started.

Samuel Pepys



One of the reasons we know so much about the Great Fire is because of the diaries kept by Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn.

John Evelyn



eyewitness	<i>A person who has seen something happen and can give a first-hand description of it.</i>
interpretation	<i>To explain something.</i>
consequences	<i>As a result of.</i>
impact	<i>The effect of something or someone on another.</i>
benefit	<i>An advantage from something.</i>