



Topic: The Great Fire of London

Year: 2

Term: 4

Background Information

- London is the capital city of England.
- England is one of the four countries of the United Kingdom.
- Our Queen in 2021 is called Queen Elizabeth II.
- Houses today are mostly made of brick.
- London in the present day has changed significantly since the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Diagrams / Timelines / Photos



King Charles II



Samuel Pepys



Interesting facts

- The Great Fire of London happened in September 1666 and lasted for 4 days.
- The king at the time was King Charles II.
- It started in a bakery in Pudding Lane.
- The baker, Thomas Farriner, didn't put out his fire properly.
- The fire spread quickly because the buildings were made of wood and straw, and built close together.
- There was also a strong wind which blew the flames across the city.
- There was no fire brigade.
- People fought the fire using fire hooks and leather buckets.
- Samuel Pepys was an important man who worked for the king.
- He came up with a plan to stop the fire—pulling down buildings in its path.
- He wrote about what happened during the fire in his diary.
- After the fire, many buildings were rebuilt using bricks.
- Sir Christopher Wren designed the Monument to remember the fire, which you can still visit in London today.
- Different materials can be used the same task, e.g. clay, plastic and metal can all be used to make bowls.
- Some objects are made of more than one material, e.g. umbrellas are made of plastic and fabric.
- Some materials can be changed by bending, squashing, twisting and stretching.

Key Vocabulary

waterproof	Does not let water pass through. Does not absorb water.
brick	A small rectangular block, typically made of clay, used in building.
heat	High temperature
diary	A written record of events/ thoughts/ opinions
wattle	Interwoven pieces of wood, twigs or branches used for making walls
daub	A mixture of wet soil, clay, sand, animal dung and straw which is applied to wattle and allowed to dry
Tudor	A period of time from 1485-1603
Fire hook	A tool used to tear down parts of buildings
extinguish	To put out flames.
government	A group of people who have the power to rule in a country.
population	The number of people who live in a particular place.
homeless	A person without a home who may be living on the streets.
Chronological order	Events that are in order of the time they happened.
Architect	Someone who designs buildings
Mayor	Important leader in a town/city
Timber frame	Wooden frame of a building that made the walls.

Know how to / Activity

- Find the Monument on a map of London.
- Write a diary of your experiences on a day-to-day basis for a week.
- Research the job of a firefighter in the present day – what equipment do they use?