

# What was the Great Fire of London, and what consequences did it have?

## Type of History



Social

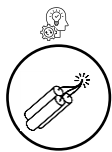
## Golden Thread Concepts

Society  
Settlement  
Community  
Advancements  
and  
achievements

## Secondary Concepts

★	Historical significance
→/	Cause and consequence
↔	Continuity and change
●●●	Similarity and difference

## When?



1605 BCE

The Gunpowder Plot



1666 BCE

Great Fire of London



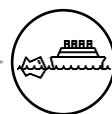
1854 BCE

Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole went to the Crimea



1888 BCE

Port Sunlight was built



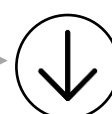
1912 BCE

HMS Titanic set sail



1970 BCE

Poulton Lancelyn Primary School opened



Now

## Key Vocabulary

Catastrophe	An event that bring harm, suffering or loss to a large area or many people; a terrible disaster
Fire brigade	An organisation that works to prevent and put out fires
Great	Very large in size
Sparks	A very small bit of hot and glowing material thrown off by burning wood
Thatch	A roof covering made from straw

## Key Vocabulary

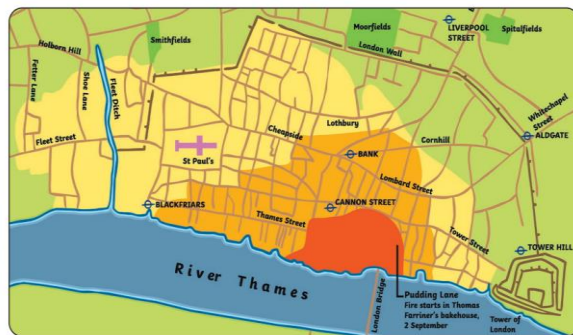


Samuel Pepys



King Charles II

**Spread of the Fire**  
■ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666  
■ Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1666  
■ Tuesday and Wednesday 4-5<sup>th</sup> September 1666



## What?



In the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, buildings were made of wood. Streets were very narrow. People travelled on foot, by boat or by horse and cart. There was no electricity. People used candles for lighting. The streets were often dirty as there were no sewer systems.



The Great Fire of London began on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666. It started in a bakery at about 1 am. It is thought that a spark from a fire hit some nearby fuel. Thomas and his family escaped through the window.



The Great Fire of London destroyed much of London in four days. Famous buildings such as St Paul's Cathedral were destroyed. On Wednesday the wind died down allowing people to begin to get control of the fire. The fire was out by Thursday.



Some of the reasons for the fire spreading so quickly were  
– Strong winds that pushed the fire across the city  
– The houses were built closely together  
– There was no fire brigade. Fire equipment was spread around the city.



People managed to get control of the fire once the storm winds had died down. People fled the city and set up temporary camps outside the field. The king provided food and drink for people. The navy sent biscuits and material for shelters.



After the fire, King Charles appointed architects to redesign the city. Some streets were widened and straightened. Houses were made from brick. They made it easier to get water from the River Thames to nearby buildings. Markets in the streets were moved to new market halls.



Wallasey Church burnt down in February 1857. The fire started as an accident, similar to the Great Fire of London. Bacon fat dripped onto prayer mats, causing them to catch fire. The Great Fire of London and the Wallasey Church fire both started in the early hours of the morning.