

Was the Great Fire of London really a disaster?

Timeline

<p>Sunday 2nd September 1666 A fire starts in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. As news of the fire spreads, people run to escape its path.</p>	<p>Monday 3rd September 1666 Fire-fighters try to tackle the fire but it spreads quickly. People carry their possessions to safety using a horse and cart or boats on the River Thames.</p>	<p>Tuesday 4th September 1666 Houses are pulled down in an attempt to stop the fire spreading. St. Paul's Cathedral is destroyed.</p>	<p>Wednesday 5th September 1666 The fire starts to burn more slowly as the wind dies down.</p>	<p>Thursday 6th September 1666 The fire is finally under control and put out. People are left homeless.</p>
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Where and why did the fire start?

- It started in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.
- The fires used for baking was not put out properly.



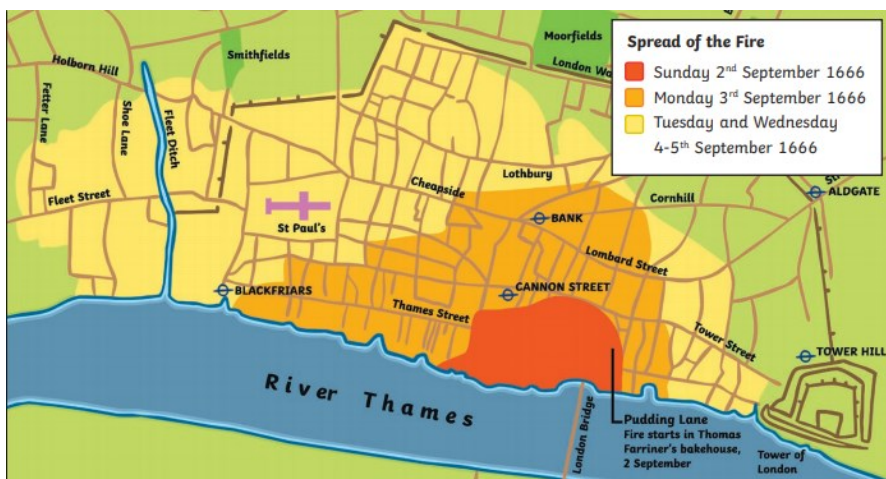
Why did the fire spread?

- The weather was hot and it hadn't rained for months.
- Strong winds which helped the flames spread.
- Houses were mainly built from wood and straw which is flammable, especially when it is very dry.
- The houses were very close together so the fire could spread easily.



How did the fire get put out?

- People used leather buckets and water squirters but these did not work.
- Eventually King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames spreading.
- The wind had also died down allowing people to put out the flames.



Key Vocabulary:

London—The capital city of the England and the United Kingdom

Wattle and daub— building method using animal waste, straw and mud to make walls of buildings.

River Thames—the river running through London.

Flammable—something that burns easily.

Source—shows information about the past.

Eye-witness—a person who has seen it and give a description of it.

Reliable—can be trusted

Dairy—written record of events/thoughts.