

Y2 – Great Fire of London		
Links made with other subjects	English, Art	
The BIG Question	What happened on the night of 2 nd September 1666?	
The BIG Outcome	Write a short explanation to answer the big question.	
History objectives	Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally	
(link to NC)	 Significant historical events, people and places The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national 	
	achievements	
	Place events in order of time	
Prior knowledge	Children already know:	
What prior knowledge is	Reception – People and communities – people who help us	
needed for children to be successful in this unit?	Y1 – Changes in living memory – houses and toys	
	Y1/2 Science – properties of materials	
Future learning	This unit gives prior knowledge to:	
Consider the conceptual knowledge within a	Y3 – Events beyond living memory	
subject that pupils need		
for future learning not		
just the recall of facts but the importance of		
concepts		
Historical strands	Historical enquiry/ skills	
	Ask questions and find answers posed in the unit.	
	• Ask questions such as: what was it like for people during the Great Fire of London?	
	What happened? What did they change after the fire? Etc.	
	 Use artefacts, pictures, stories, visits, online sources to find out about the Great Fire of London. 	
	 Sources – photographs, written accounts, comparing old and new photographs 	
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	Continuity, change, cause and effect	
	Recognise what changed as a result of the fire	
	Empathise with people of the time.	
	Governance/ Rulership King Charles II 	
	• King charles in	
	Chronology	
	Place key events on a timeline	
Vocabulary/	Material, drought, bakery, wood, stone, artefacts, fire brigade	
Glossary	The knowledge that children will learn and remember:	
Knowledge (see italics for knowledge to remember)	The knowledge that children will learn and remember: 1. Place key events on a timeline.	
	 The Great Fire of London happened between 2-5 September in 1666 and began in a 	
	bakery in Pudding Lane owned by a man called Thomas Farriner. He'd forgotten to	
	put out the fire in his oven the night before. Before the fire began, there had been	
	a drought in London that lasted for 10 months, so the city was very dry.	
	3. Materials of houses - In 1666, lots of people had houses made from wood and straw	
	which burned easily. Houses were also built very close together.	
	4. There was a big argument about how to fight the Great Fire. The fire fighters wanted to tear down houses that might get hurned so the fire wouldn't spread so	
	wanted to tear down houses that might get burned so the fire wouldn't spread so	



History Scheme of Work

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	quickly, but the Lord Mayor of London disagreed. In the end, King Charles II had to ask for the houses to be pulled down, but by then the fire had already grown very big.
	5. To fight fires during this time, people would have used leather buckets, metal hooks and water squirts. Lots of people went to St. Paul's Cathedral to escape from the fire because it was made from stone – stone does not burn. But some of the roof was made of wood, so this didn't turn out to be a very good plan!
	 6. The fire burnt down a lot of buildings – over 13,000 houses, 87 churches and even St. Paul's Cathedral! Around 70,000 people lost their homes in the fire. These people had to set up tends in the fields around London so they had a place to stay.
	 7. Artefacts to tell us about the fire - We know what happened during the fire because people back then wrote about it in letters and newspapers – for instance, Samuel Pepys wrote about it in his diary.
	 It is recorded that only six people died in the fire, but this may not be true – sometimes when poor people died their deaths weren't recorded.
	9. <u>Changes after the fire</u> When houses were rebuilt, a lot of them were made in bricks instead of wood, and they weren't built so close together.
	 The first proper London Fire Brigade was created in 1866, 200 years after the Great Fire.
	11. Compare life in London in 1666 to life now – houses, transport, jobs etc.
SEND expectations	1. Place key events on a timeline
	2. The Great Fire of London happened between 2-5 September in 1666 and began in a
	bakery in Pudding Lane owned by a man called Thomas Farriner.
	3. Materials of houses - In 1666, lots of people had houses made from wood and straw which burned easily. Houses were also built very close together.
	4. Artefacts to tell us about the fire – Samuel Pepys diary
	5. Changes after the fire
	When houses were rebuilt, a lot of them were made in bricks instead of wood, and they weren't built so close together.