

The Great Fire of London: A Historical Inquiry

Step back in time with Ellie the Elephant to uncover the story of the fire that changed London forever!

- The fire began in the early hours of Sunday 2nd September 1666 at Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.
- London's houses were built very close together using wood and thatch, which helped the fire spread quickly across the city.
- A long, hot, dry summer had left the wooden buildings very parched, acting like fuel for the flames.
- To stop the fire from spreading, soldiers and citizens created 'firebreaks' by pulling down houses to leave gaps in the path of the flames.
- After the fire, the city was rebuilt using brick and stone instead of wood to make buildings safer and prevent future fires.
- A famous tall stone column, known as The Monument, was built near Pudding Lane to remember the Great Fire.

Did you know? Did you know? Even though the fire destroyed over 13,000 houses and 87 churches, the official death toll recorded was very small. However, many historians believe that many more people may have lost their lives, but their names were never recorded because they were not wealthy citizens.

Key vocabulary: Pudding Lane · Bakery · 1666 · Timber-framed · Firebreak · Monument