

Bonfire Night: History and Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the historical origins of Bonfire Night and the traditions associated with 5th November.

Read the front of each card to test your knowledge about the history of Bonfire Night. Flip the card to check your answer.

What is the historical event celebrated on 5th November?

Bonfire Night commemorates the failure of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605.

Who was the main person caught in the cellars of Parliament?

Guy Fawkes.

What were the plotters trying to destroy?

The Houses of Parliament.

Why did the plotters want to hurt the government?

They were unhappy with the treatment of their religious group under King James I.

What do people traditionally light on this night to remember the event?

Bonfires.

What are the colorful explosions seen in the sky during celebrations?

Fireworks, which represent the gunpowder that was never used.

What is a 'Guy'?

An effigy, often made of old clothes stuffed with straw, representing Guy Fawkes.

Why do we have fireworks displays today?

To remember the failed plot and to celebrate the safety of the King and Parliament.

In what year did the Gunpowder Plot take place?

1605.

What is the famous rhyme associated with 5th November?

Remember, remember the fifth of November, gunpowder, treason and plot.

Which character is known for loving history and stories?

Ellie the elephant!

What do we call a custom that has been passed down through generations?

A tradition.