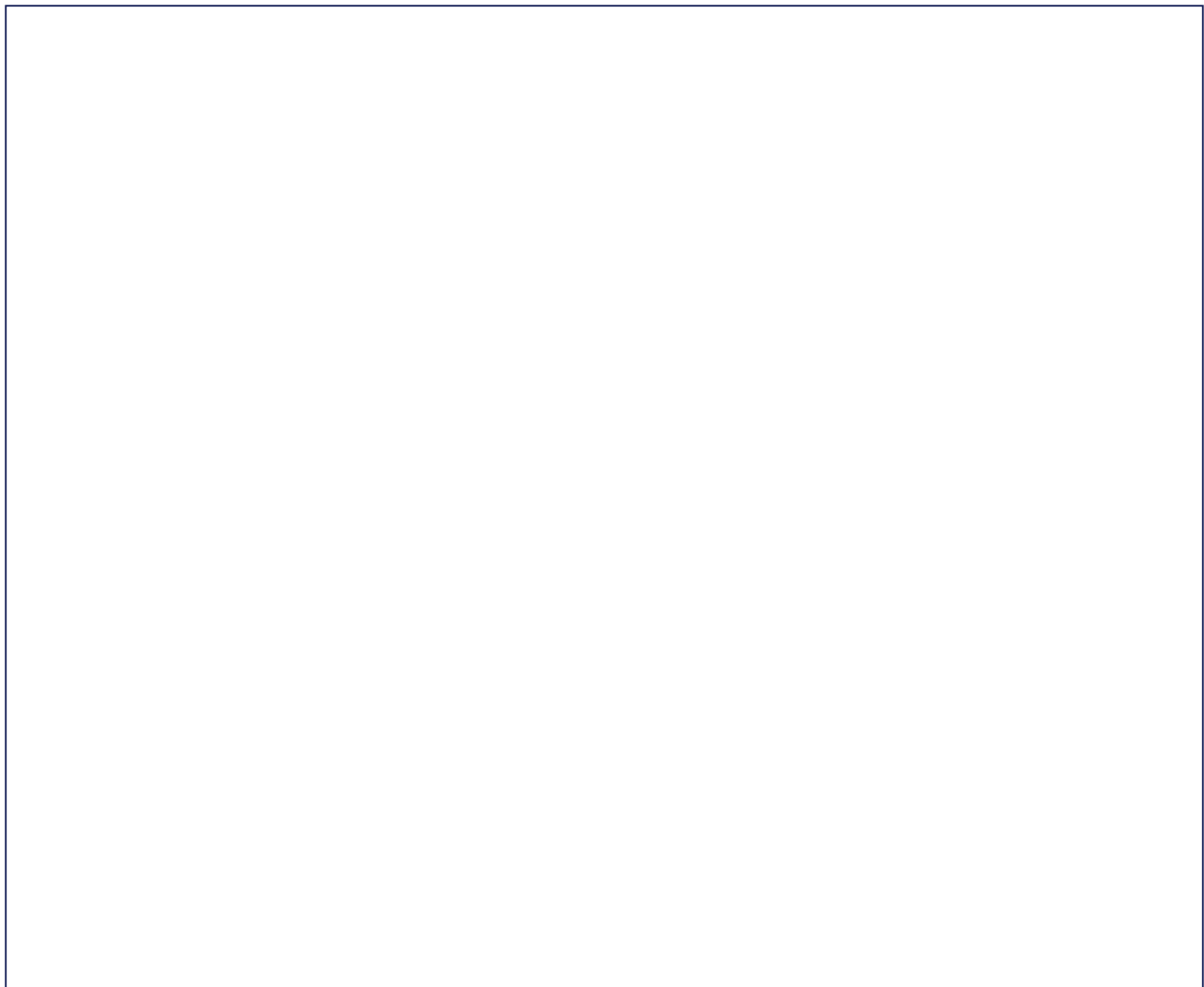


Ellie's Historical Sketches: The Great Fire of London

Learning objective: To visually represent the causes and spread of the Great Fire of London in 1666, identifying key features of 17th-century architecture and the challenges faced by the city.

Use your knowledge of 1666 to complete the illustration. Ellie the Elephant has provided a scene of Pudding Lane. Follow the drawing steps carefully and add the labels from the word bank to your sketch to demonstrate your historical understanding.

Draw: Create a detailed historical scene of Pudding Lane at the start of the fire. Use a cross-section or street-view perspective. Include timber-framed houses with overhanging upper floors (jetties) and thatched roofs. In the foreground, draw a group of people forming a line to pass leather buckets of water. In the background, show the smoke rising and the distant outline of the old St. Paul's Cathedral. Use fine-liner pens for architectural details and warm colours (orange, red, yellow) to depict the glowing embers and spreading flames.



Label words: Pudding Lane · Timber-framed houses · Thatched roof · Pitch · Bucket chain · River Thames · St. Paul's Cathedral

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a row of tall, narrow houses with jettied upper floors. Label the materials used to build them.
2. Step 2: Illustrate the River Thames in the distance. Why might citizens have chosen to flee towards the

river?

3. Step 3: Label the 'Bucket Chain' in your drawing. Explain why this was an ineffective method for stopping such a large fire.
4. Explain why the 'jettied' design of 17th-century houses (where the top floor hangs over the street) made it easier for the fire to jump from one side of the street to the other.
5. Compare and contrast the firefighting equipment shown in your drawing with the tools used by modern-day firefighters. What is the most significant difference?
6. Justify your answer: If the wind had been blowing in the opposite direction, would the fire have been easier to contain? Why?