The Great Fire of London with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the key facts about the Great Fire of London, including when it happened and why the fire spread so quickly.

Read the questions carefully. Use your knowledge of the Great Fire of London to write your answers. Remember to use your best handwriting!

Ellie the Elephant has been reading her history books! She knows that in 1666, a huge fire started in a small shop on Pudding Lane. Because the houses were made of wood and built very close together, the fire spread across the city of London very quickly. People had to use the River Thames to stay safe.

Word bank: Pudding Lane · 1666 · Bakery · Wood · Straw · River Thames · Samuel Pepys

1. In what year did the Great Fire of London start? (1 mark)

2. Where exactly did the fire begin? Use a word from the word bank. (1 mark)

3. Why did the fire spread so quickly between the houses? Give two reasons. (2 marks)

4. Which famous person kept a diary about the fire, which helps historians like Ellie learn about what happened? (1 mark)

5. If you were living in London in 1666, why might you have gone to the River Thames? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a house from 1666. Remember that they were made of wood and built very close together!

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter in 1666. Write one sentence to tell people what is happening in the city.