Bonfire Night Explorer’s Fact-File

Learning objective: To recall and explain key historical and safety information regarding Bonfire Night.

Use this fact-file to demonstrate your knowledge of the history and customs of 5th November. Use the word bank to help you write descriptive sentences. For the final section, use your critical thinking skills to explain the importance of safety.

Word bank: Guy Fawkes · Parliament · tradition · fireworks · celebration · safety · history · sparklers

1. The Historical Context: Briefly explain who was involved in the Gunpowder Plot and why they wanted to enter the Houses of Parliament. (3 marks)

2. Traditions and Customs: Compare and contrast how people celebrated this event in the past versus how we celebrate it today. (4 marks)

3. Safety First: Justify why it is essential to follow the 'Firework Code' when attending a display with Nova and her friends. (3 marks)

4. Reflective Thinking: Explain why you think this date is still remembered in British history after so many hundreds of years. (3 marks)

5. Creative Analysis: If the events of 1605 had been discovered earlier, what might have happened to the history of our government? (3 marks)

6. Scientific Observation: Describe the colours and patterns you see in fireworks. Why do you think Zara the zebra finds these displays so artistic? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter in 1605. Write a short, formal newspaper article explaining the events of 5th November. Use sophisticated vocabulary such as 'treason', 'conspiracy', and 'commemoration' to describe the scene.