Bonfire Night: A History and Tradition Assessment

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of the history of Bonfire Night and its significance in British culture.

Read each question carefully. Max, our maths-loving monkey, wants you to be as precise as possible with your answers! Write your responses in the spaces provided.

Bonfire Night, also known as Guy Fawkes Night, is celebrated on the 5th of November each year in the United Kingdom. It marks the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. A group of men, including Guy Fawkes, wanted to destroy the Houses of Parliament because they were unhappy with the government. They hid barrels of gunpowder in a cellar beneath the building. However, they were discovered before they could carry out their plan. Today, people light bonfires and set off fireworks to remember the night the plot failed.

Word bank: Guy Fawkes · Parliament · Gunpowder Plot · tradition · King James I · celebration · fireworks

1. On which date do we celebrate Bonfire Night each year? (1 mark)

2. Who was the King of England at the time of the Gunpowder Plot? (1 mark)

3. Why did the group of men want to target the Houses of Parliament? (2 marks)

4. Explain two ways in which people celebrate Bonfire Night today. Why are these activities used? (3 marks)

5. Imagine you are a reporter in 1605. Write a short paragraph explaining what the guards found when they checked the cellar beneath Parliament. (4 marks)

6. If a family buys 3 packs of sparklers for £2 each and a box of fireworks for £9, how much do they spend in total? Show your working out. (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Why do you think it is important for countries to remember historical events like the Gunpowder Plot, even if they happened hundreds of years ago? Give reasons for your answer. (5 marks)

8. Max asks: If the plot had succeeded, how would the history of our country be different today? Suggest one idea. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene of a safe bonfire display. Include a safety sign to show how to stay protected near the flames.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: Find out one safety rule for handling sparklers and explain why it is important to follow it.