

Bonfire Night: History and Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the historical origins of Bonfire Night and the traditions associated with it in the UK.

Read each flashcard carefully. The front of the card asks a question or presents a term, and the back provides the answer. Use these to test your knowledge about the Gunpowder Plot.

What is the historical event celebrated on 5th November?

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

Who was the monarch of England during the Gunpowder Plot?

King James I.

What was the main goal of the Gunpowder Plotters?

They wanted to blow up the Houses of Parliament to remove the King and his government.

Which famous conspirator was caught guarding the gunpowder?

Guy Fawkes.

In what year did the Gunpowder Plot take place?

1605.

What is an 'effigy' often placed on top of a bonfire?

A dummy made of old clothes, representing Guy Fawkes.

Why do we have fireworks on Bonfire Night?

To represent the explosives that were meant to be used in the plot.

What is the name of the legislative building the plotters targeted?

The Houses of Parliament.

Who discovered the plot after receiving an anonymous letter?

Lord Monteagle.

What is the traditional rhyme that starts 'Remember, remember the fifth of November'?

The Gunpowder, treason and plot rhyme.

How is the failure of the plot still celebrated today?

By lighting bonfires and setting off colourful fireworks displays.

What does 'treason' mean?

The crime of betraying one's country or sovereign.