Disaster Strikes

I. When was the Great Fire of London and how do we find out?

The Great Fire of London started ion 2nd September and 1666 and was extinguished on the 6th September 1666. The fire started at lam on Sunday morning in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane. It may have been caused by a spark from his oven falling onto a pile of fuel nearby.

2. What was London like in 1666?

Homes arched out over the street below, almost touching in places, and the city was buzzing with people. Lots of animals lived London too - there were no cars, buses or lorries back then - so as well as houses, the city was full of sheds and yards packed high with flammable hay and straw.

3. How does London in 1666 compare with London today?

4. Why is Samuel Pepys Significant?

Samuel Pepys survived the Great Plaque of 1665. He also saw the Great Fire of London in 1666. It destroyed 13,000 houses. We know lots about these two events from his diary.

Key vocabulary

- Monarchy A monarchy is a form of government that has a single person known as a monarch at its head Monarchs use such titles as king, queen, emperor, or empress.
- Cause- is the thing that makes something happen
- Effect- is the thing that happens (the reaction).
- Primary Source first hand account of an event. Newspapers, diary, artefacts.
- Secondary sources- can be written after an event— books

5. How do the reactions of others to the fire compare and contrast to those of Samuel Pepys?

2nd September 1666 Fire broke out. 3rd September 1666 Fire spread and reached the banking quarters of the city. 4th September 1666 King Charles II helped people to put out the fire.

St Paul's Cathedral caught fire.

5th September 1666

6th September 1666 Fire was extinguished

Houses were pulled down.

Dates and events



Applying past knowledge

Children will reminded of the Victorian Era that came before. (Year I learning) and prior learning of London (Geography Autumn 1)

