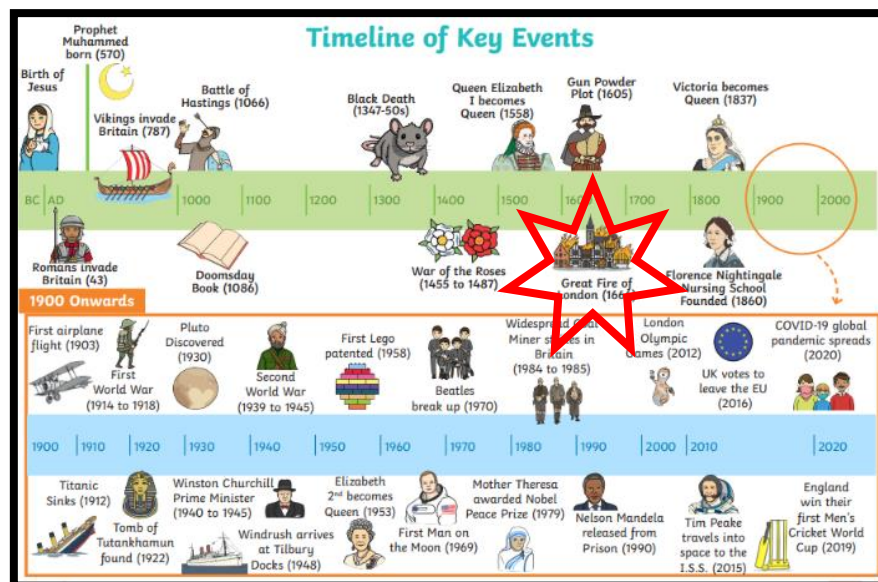


Penguins – Enquiry based learning – Spring 2025

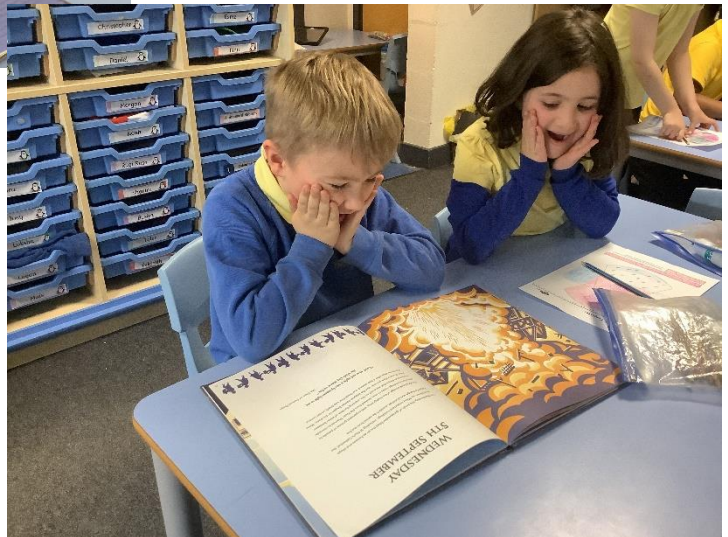
“Why did the Great Fires of Newcastle/London spread so quickly?”

At the start of the topic:

In the beginning of the topic, we started by learning lots of facts about the Great Fires of London, including key dates, times and key people. We used timelines to support us in our understanding of the time that the fires occurred in relation to the present day.



After, we used non-fiction books and the iPads to do our own research in small groups. We learned how to scan QR codes to go to relevant websites and videos. Also, we watched videos from real-life, current firefighters about how they fight fires, their equipment and their careers. We used these to compare how fires are fought in 1666 and in 1854.

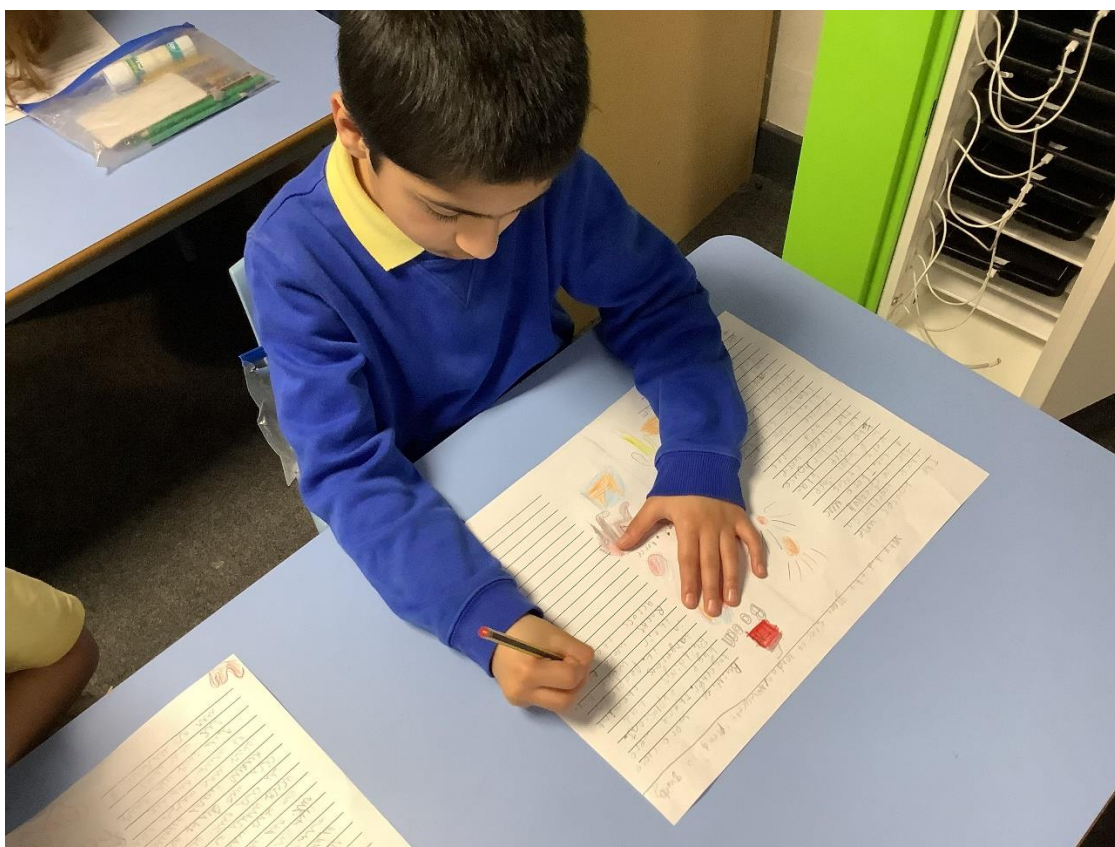
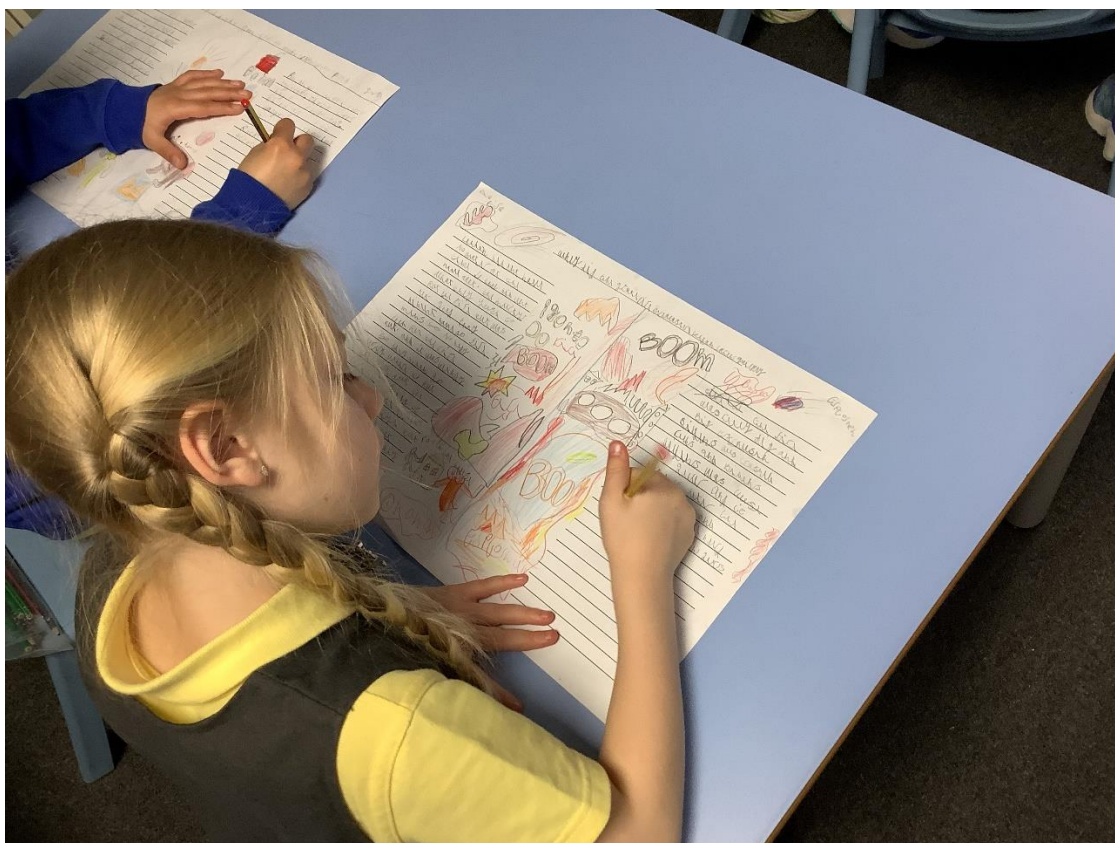


We watched videos using the Ipads and played games to help us remember our facts.



Next steps:

Next, we discussed and recorded what we had learnt in small groups. We compared and contrasted how fires were fought in 1666, how it developed into 1854 and then how we do it today.



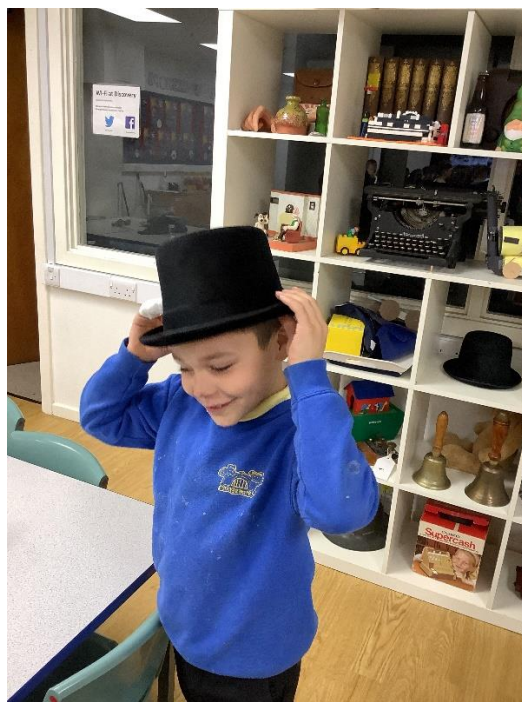
Careers links:

We linked our topic to the role of a firefighter today. We learnt about the essential skills that people need to be a successful firefighter. We had a virtual tour of a firestation and saw what a day is like in the life of a firefighter.

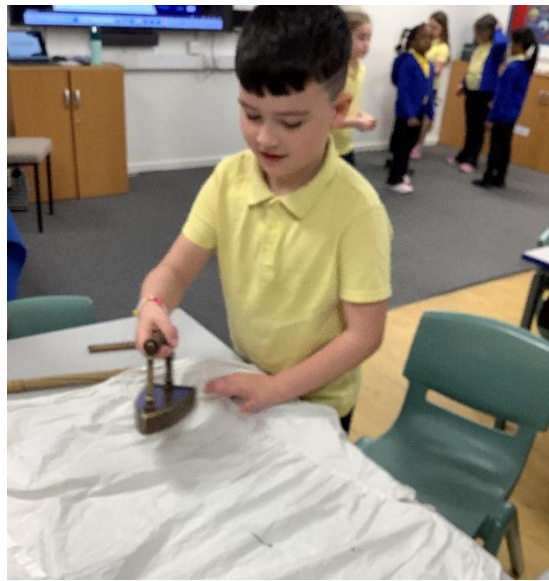


Visit to the Discovery Museum

To support our learning, we visited the Discovery museum. We were lucky enough to take part in a workshop with a historian, Julie. We learnt more about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead, looked at Victorian artefacts and even performed our own puppet show of the story.

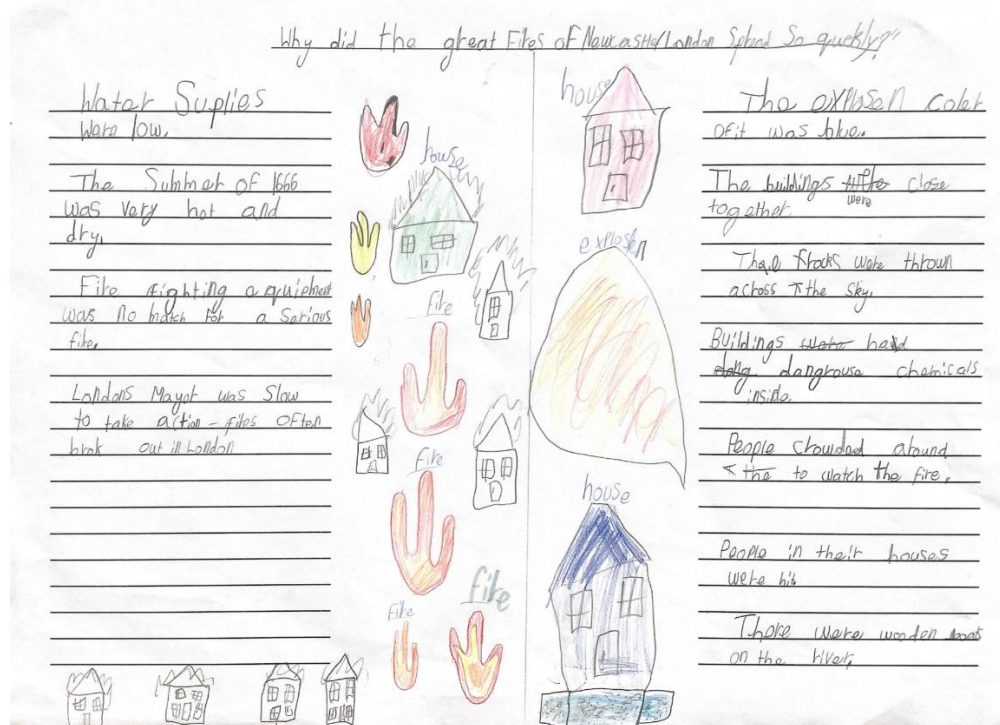






Presenting our research/Examples of end products:

Finally, we made a poster to show what we found out and to present our research. We drew some illustrations to show the changes that have occurred during the times of the Great Fires. During our ERIC sessions, we showed our posters and read out what we had learnt to support our Speaking and listening skills.



Why did the Great Fire of Newcastle / London spread so quickly?

There was a very strong wind on the night of the fire.
The summer of 1666 was very hot and dry.
London's mayor was slow to take action - his seven broke out in London.
Water supplies were low.
There was no fire service in 1666.



The fire was a very great fire. Many houses and shops were burned in the sky and hit many people.
53 people died because of the explosion. And thousands of people lost their homes.
There were wooden boats on the river.
The fireman could not get very good at night.
The fire was so big that the fireman needed lots more help.
The hospital treatment wasn't very good.
People in their houses were hit.

Why did the Great Fire of Newcastle / London spread so quickly?



The fire started because sparks from the bakery went. The fire spread quickly because it was windy.
Many houses were made of wood and stone so they burnt so easily. Water supply was low so the fire went big.



15

Buildings were close together. There were big explosions. Buildings had dangerous chemicals there. There were wooden boats on the river. People crowded around to watch the fire. Rocks were thrown across the sky. People in their houses were hit.