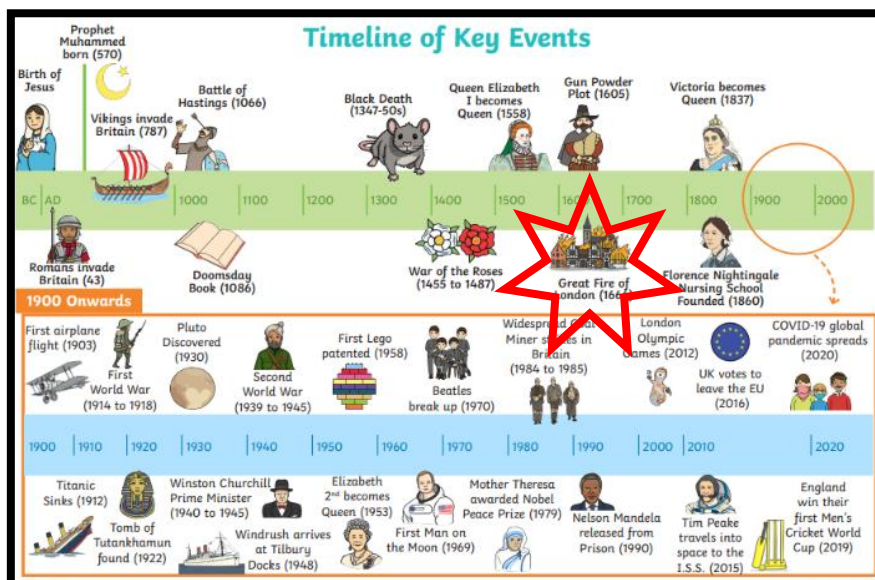


Penguins – Enquiry based learning – Spring 2026

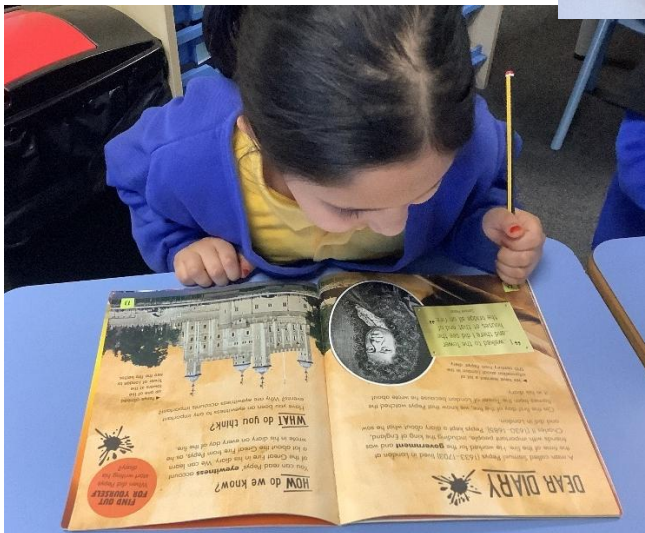
“Why did the Great Fires of Newcastle/London spread so quickly?”

At the start of the topic:

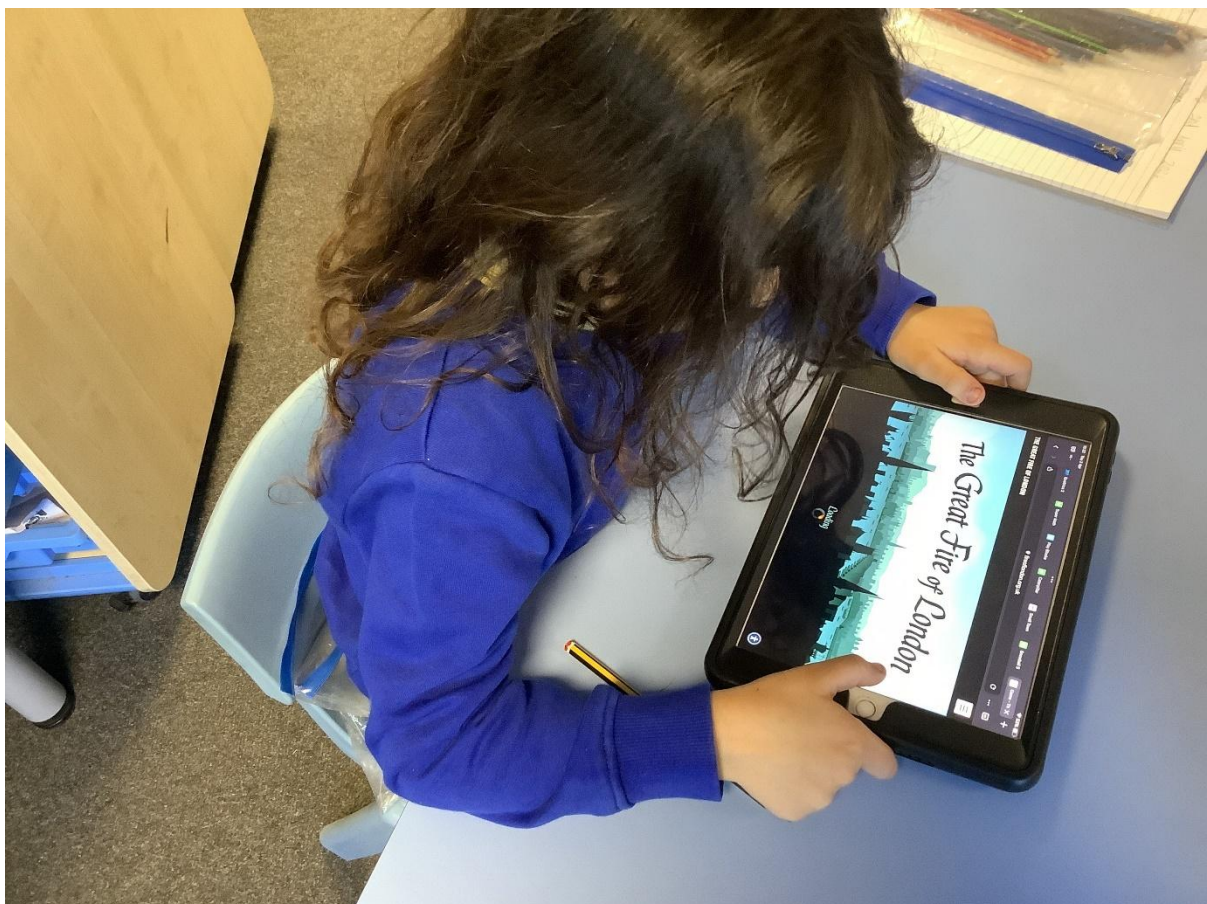
To introduce our topic, we began by learning key facts about the Great Fires of London, including key dates, times and key people. We used timelines to support us in our understanding of the time that the fires occurred in relation to the present day.



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.

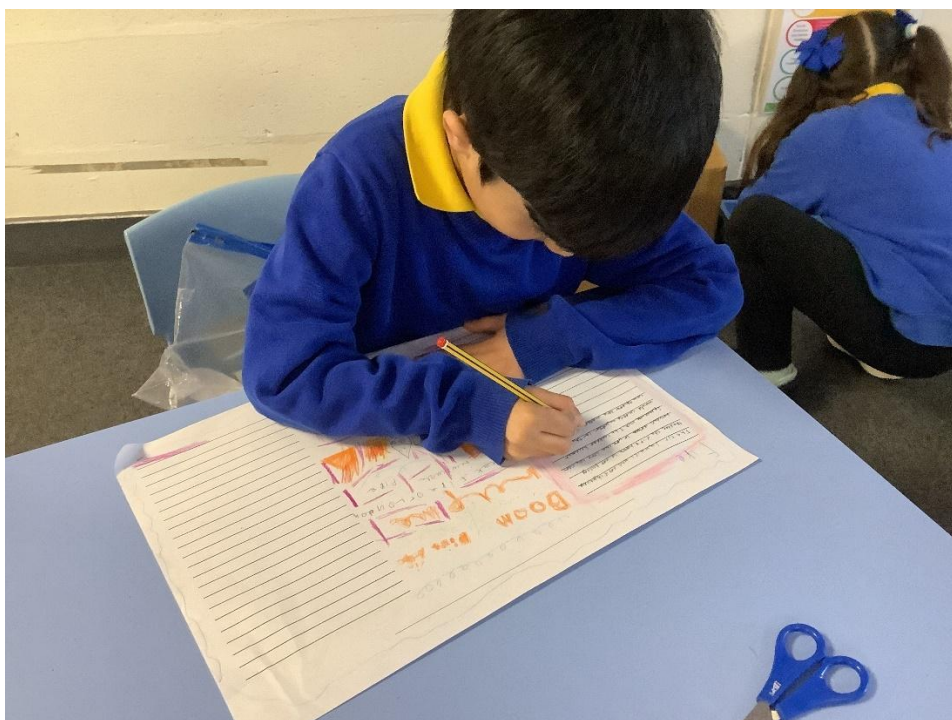
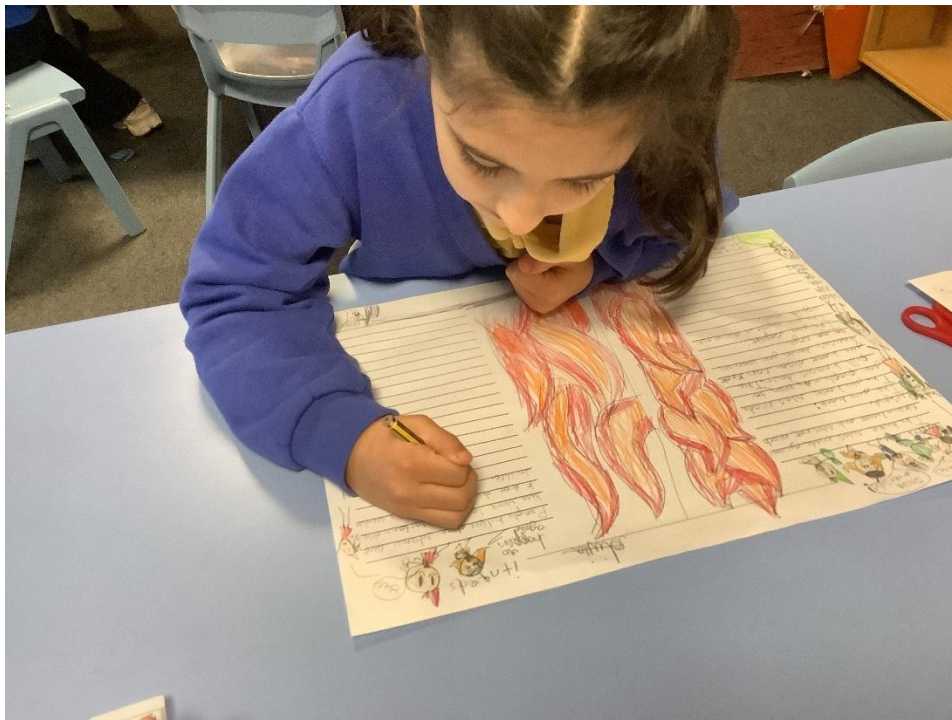


We watched videos using the Ipads and played games to help us remember our facts.



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, John. 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.

