

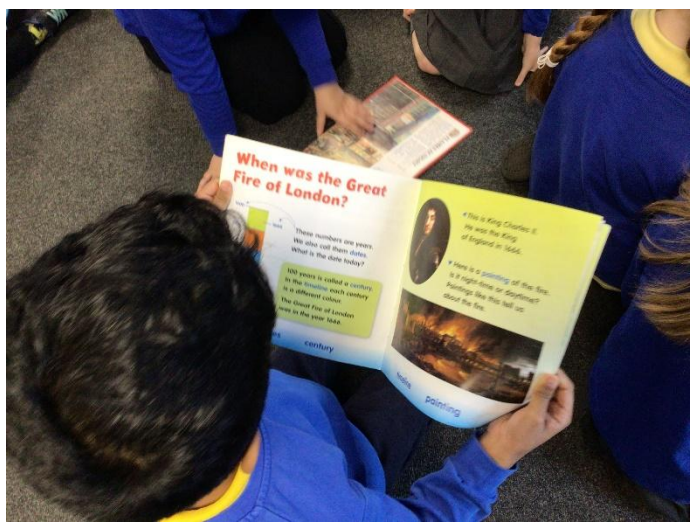
Year 2 Seals – Enquiry based learning – Spring 2026.

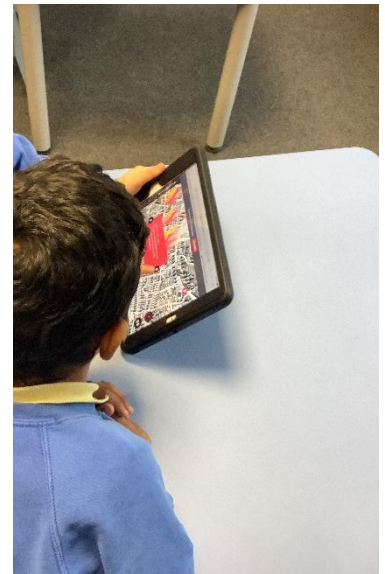
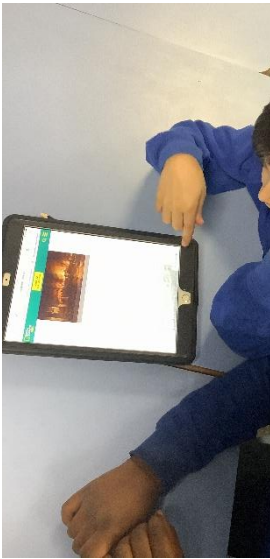
What caused the 'Great Fires' to spread so quickly?

Beginning of the process

At the beginning of the process, we started to find out all of the facts and information about the Great Fire of London and the Great Fire of Newcastle/Gateshead.

Then we used various 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. We watched videos on You Tube of what firefighting is like in 2026 and we compared the equipment that firefighters use now to the equipment used in 1666.





We watched videos to help gain knowledge about the equipment used in 1666 and the equipment used today to help fight fires.



We looked at different sources that we could use to find out information and worked in groups to discuss whether they were useful or not. We used our Voice 21 speaking and listening techniques to listen to other children's ideas and then decide if we agreed or not.

How useful?

Samuel Pepys's diary entry for the 2 September 1666, the start of the Great Fire.



Samuel Pepys's diary

How useful?

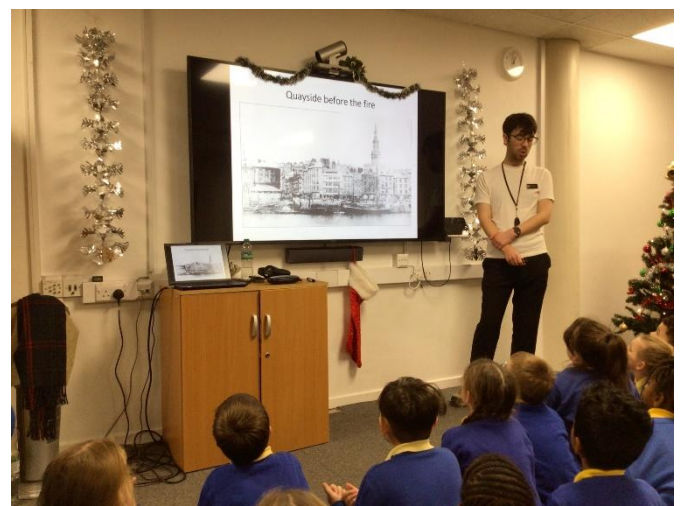
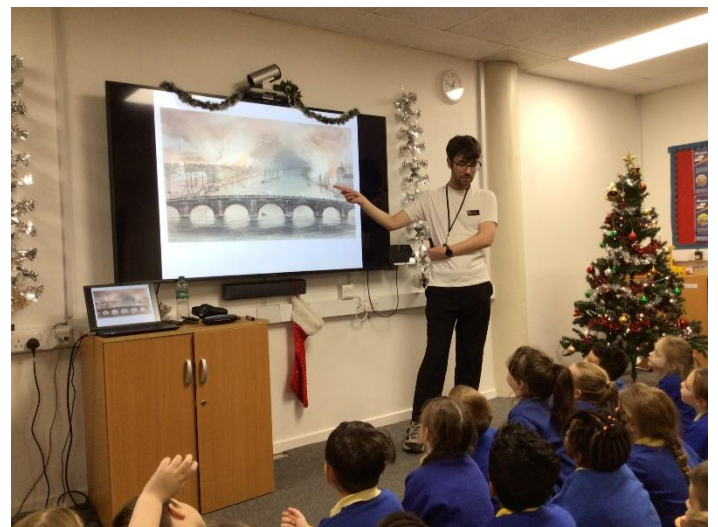
Thomas Farriner, who owned the Pudding Lane bakery, probably had a large, brick oven of a similar shape to this one.



Bread Oven

We then compared how they fought the fire in 1666 to how fires are fought now. We compared the Great Fire of London to the Great Fire of Newcastle to see how things had changed.

We went on a trip to the Discovery Museum to take part in a workshop about the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead. We found out more about the event, explored some artefacts from the Victorian period and took part in a puppet show to show our knowledge of what happened.







How did the great fire spread so quickly?

On Sunday 2nd September 1666 Thomas Farriner's baker ^{shop} in Pudding Lane people realized that he didn't put the fire out early then they was a spark. The spark grew and it was absorbent. The fire was spreading so fast many houses got burnt people ran bad and frust to try to put the fire out.



The Great Fire of London started on 2nd September 1666 in a place called leatherhead. There was an explosion that caused it to happen. The fire spread quickly to New castle because hot rocks was thrown about the river. They tried to put the fire out but with close houses the fire spread to get the fire out. The fire last for 5 days. The fire killed 53 people.

How did the Great fire spread so quickly?

It was Sunday 2nd September 1666. Thomas Farriner was making bread but he didn't put the fire out properly so the fire began. Her maid got the blame but she couldn't protest because she didn't escape in time so she today died. 53 other people died to with the maid. They used sixes hooks, leather buckets and fire saws to try and put it out. It had been a hot summer and there was a strong wind. The streets and houses were close together. They had to use water from the river Thames.



It was 5th October 1554 in a workshop. There was a fire and oil in it. But just then it spread to a Mr Robert Kays warehouse and in it was dangerous chemical in it. Then there was a big boom. Boiling hot rocks were shot towards the New castle. All the houses were close together and made from wood which helped the fire spread. The fire engineers were pulled by horses so 53 people died. Even firemen had to call for help. It lasted 1 and a half days.

How did the great fire spread so quickly?

On Sunday 2nd September 1866
in Thomas Farkner's bakery on
padding lane the fire started
in Thomas Farkner's bakery
the bakery caught on fire
and kept the fire kept
going for five days
the streets & houses
houses were close
together so the fire
could touch them
until the maid
died they tried to
put the fire out
with buckets of
water, fire
a fire hook they
had to get water
from the river
themselves to
put the fire out
they asked
but he said
the fire out
and went
to sleep.



On 10th October 1854
the Great Fire of Newcastle
started on Gateshead
and the fire spread
over the city of
Newcastle because
there was
burning hot rocks
were thrown
over the river
Tyne. The fire
started in a
factory called
the worst
manufactory it
belonged to
Mr Bertram's
warehouse Mr
Bertram had
chemicals and
his chemicals
caused an
explosion. The
fire spread
quickly to
Newcastle
because the
building
was made
of wood and
the fire
lasted for
one and a
half days
and they
tried to
put it out
with
the fire
engine.

How did the great fire spread so quickly?

the fire started on
Sunday the 2nd September
the fire started in
a bakery and the
people who lived there
didn't put the
fire out properly
a spark jumped
out and spread
very fast and
everybody was
trying to put
it out but
it made a fire
and there was
a strong
wind and the
fire got
bigger and
bigger and
they tried
to put it
out with
water but
it didn't
work because
the houses
were made
of wood
and the
water
didn't
work.



The great fire of
Newcastle started
on Gateshead it
started in a
warehouse and
somebody had
dangerous
chemicals which
exploded and
that was
Mr Bertram and
the fire started
on the
10th of October
1854. The
fire spread
quickly to
the houses
because
they were
made of
wood and
there was
a strong
wind and
the fire
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