



The Great Fire of London



Vocabulary Dozen			
Bakery	A place that makes bread, cakes, etc.	event	Something that happens – it is usually important.
St Paul's Cathedral	A very large church in London. A new St Paul's Cathedral was built after the fire.	source	A document or person that gives information.
Diary	A book that people write about their lives in.	evidence	A sign which shows that something exists or is true.
Firebreak	A gap that stops a fire spreading to nearby buildings.	architect	A person who designs buildings.
London	The capital city of England.	eyewitness	A person who sees something that happens and can talk about it.
River Thames	The longest river in England. It runs through London.	present	Now.

Key People



Samuel Pepys



Thomas Farriner



King Charles II

Monday 3rd September 1666

The fire gets very close to the Tower of London.

Tuesday 4th September 1666

St Paul's Cathedral is destroyed by the fire.

Timeline of Events

Sunday 2nd September 1666

The fire starts at 1 a.m.
Mid-morning: Samuel Pepys starts to write about the fire in his **diary**.

Wednesday 5th September 1666

The wind dies down and the fire spreads more slowly.

Thursday 6th September 1666

The fire is finally put out.
Thousands of people are left homeless.

Key Events and Facts

When and where did the fire start?	The fire started on Sunday 2nd September 1666 in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane.
Why did the fire start?	The fires used for baking were not put out properly.
Why did the fire spread so quickly?	In 1666, the buildings in London were made of wood and straw and they were very close together, making it easy for the flames to spread. It had also been a dry summer, so the buildings were dry. Strong winds were blowing, which helped the flames to spread.
How did people try to put the fire out?	People used leather buckets and water squirts to try to put the fire out, but these did not work. Later in the week, King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the flames from spreading.
How and when was the fire put out?	By Thursday 6th September, the wind had died down. This meant that people were able to put out the flames.