

Great Fire of London



The Great Fire of London started in Thomas Farriner's bakery in **Pudding Lane**. It burned for **nearly five days**.

People only had basic equipment to put the fire out, like this fire squirt:



The fire spread uncontrollably because:

- Houses were built **very close together** and out of **flammable** materials, so it could spread quickly.
- There was **no fire service**, and the equipment was not good enough to fight such a big fire.
- There had **not been much rain** that summer, so there was not much water to put out the fire.
- The Lord Mayor **did not act straight away**, so the fire had more time to grow at the start.
- A **strong wind** was blowing and blew the fire from one building to the next.

Long term

Short term



After the fire, people:

- Rebuilt buildings from stone and brick, and kept more space between them.
- Built a monument to the fire (picture).
- Set up the first fire services.

When did it happen?



Great Fire of London

Now



A very, very long time ago!

The first train



Living memory

Key vocabulary

- **condition:** (noun) the situation that something or someone is in
- **firebreak:** (noun) a space between building that can stop a fire spreading
- **fire hook:** (noun) a long pole with a hook on the end that can pull down buildings to create firebreaks
- **fire squirt:** (noun) a piece of firefighting equipment used in 1660s London that was like a water pistol
- **flammable:** (adjective) describing something that is easily set on fire
- **impact:** (noun) something that happens because of something else
- **long-term:** (adjective) describing something that happens over a long time
- **Lord Mayor:** (Noun) the person who was in charge of London, like the mayor today
- **monument:** (noun) something that is built to help people remember or celebrate an event
- **short-term:** (adjective) describing something that happens quickly, over a short term
- **trigger:** (noun) something that causes an event to happen