

History Topic: The Great Fire of Northampton

Year Group: 1

Autumn Term 1

Key Knowledge:	
Overview	The Great Fire of Northampton was a major fire that destroyed nearly all of Northampton Town.
When and where did the fire start?	The fire started on 20th September 1675, 9 years after the Great Fire of London. It was caused by a spark from an open fire in a house on St. Mary's street.
Why did the fire spread so quickly?	Like London, the buildings in Northampton were made of wood and straw and they were very close together making it easy for the fire to spread. The fire also spread to the Market Square, which sold goods, like oil, malt and corn which fuelled the fire and made it much worse. In one day, the fire destroyed: • 600 homes • All Saints Church • All the market stalls in the Market Square,
How and when was the fire out?	The fire only lasted for 6 hours, but destroyed nearly all of the town centre in that time. It is not known exactly how the fire was stopped.
Did many people die?	Records show that 11 people died in The Great Fire of Northampton.
How do we know about The Great Fire of Northampton?	We know about what happened because people wrote about it in newspapers and letters. Artists who were around at the time painted pictures of the fire as well. The fire was reported to be more furious and destructive that the Great Fire of London.
What happened after the fire?	In the days after the fire, people from around Northampton donated food and items to help all those that had lost their homes in the fire. King Charles II donated 1000 tons of wood from Salcey Forest to rebuild the town. Lord Northampton campaigned in Parliament for a special act to rebuild Northampton. When rebuilding Northampton, the streets were widened and the houses were built with slate roofs to try and prevent more

Key Vocabulary:	
Northampton	Northampton is a large town in England, UK. It is the town which we live in.
The Great Fire of Northampton	a major fire that swept through Northampton in 1675
The Great Fire of London	a major fire that swept through London in 1666.
market	a place where bread and cakes are made or sold.
fire	a process in which substances combine to give out bright light, heat & smoke.
flames	part of a fire.
All Saints Church	a large church in the centre of Northampton.

Significant People:

Lord Northampton	King Charles II
Lord Northampton campaigned for a	Charles II was the King of England during
special act of Parliament to be rushed	the time of the Great Fire of Northampton.
through to rebuild Northampton after the	He donated 1000 tons of wood from Salcey
fire.	Forest to help rebuild the houses destroyed
	by the fire.

A painting of the Great Fire of Northampton:

