

# The advantages of The Great Fire of London



Can you remember what  
destruction The Great Fire of  
London caused?



Talk to your partner

Did you remember all of these?

13,200 houses burned down.

87 churches destroyed.

6 people died.

80% of London destroyed.

70,000 people left homeless.



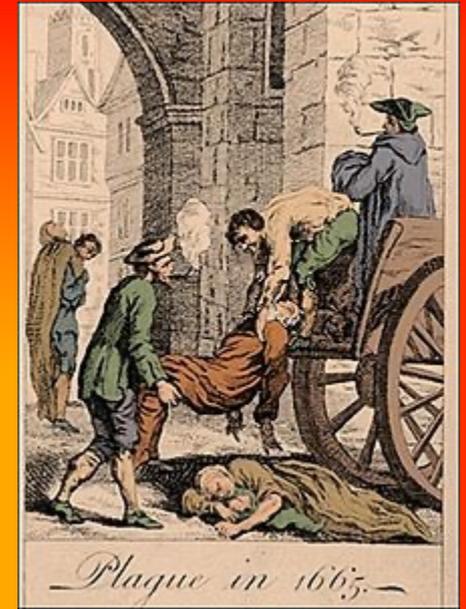
Did anything good come out of  
The Great Fire of London?

What do you think?

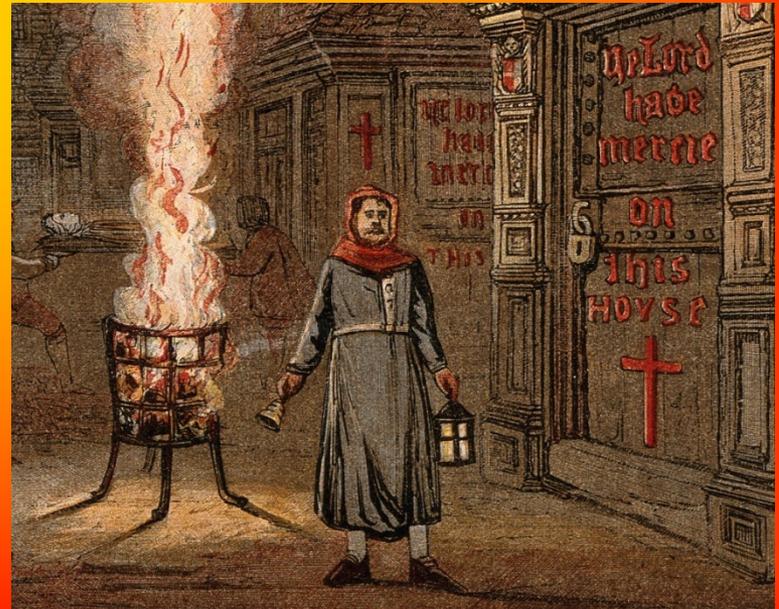


# The Plague

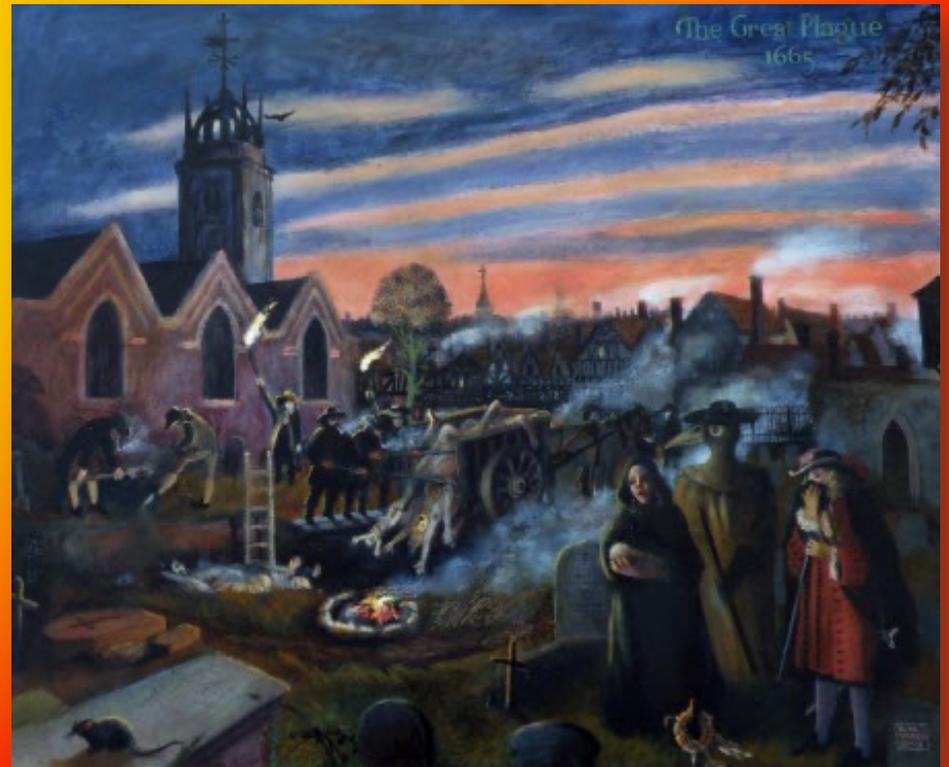
In 1665, a terrible disease had arrived in Britain. It was called the Bubonic Plague, or the Black Death.



Red crosses were painted on houses to warn people to stay away!



Many people died, especially the poor people in London. Nobody knew at the time, but the disease was spread by fleas living on rats in the filthy streets.



The doctors were scared of catching the disease, so they wore special masks like bird beaks. They were called "beak doctors".

Inside the beak, there were flower petals, because this was thought to keep the air being breathed in fresh and clean.

This is where the nursery rhyme "Ring-a-Ring-O'Roses" comes from!



The Great Fire of London destroyed all the rubbish in the streets, killed all the rats and got rid of the disease.



After the fire, 80% of London was completely destroyed.





King Charles II asked a famous architect called Sir Christopher Wren to design a new London. They agreed there should be:

straight streets

wide, open spaces      no more thatched roofs

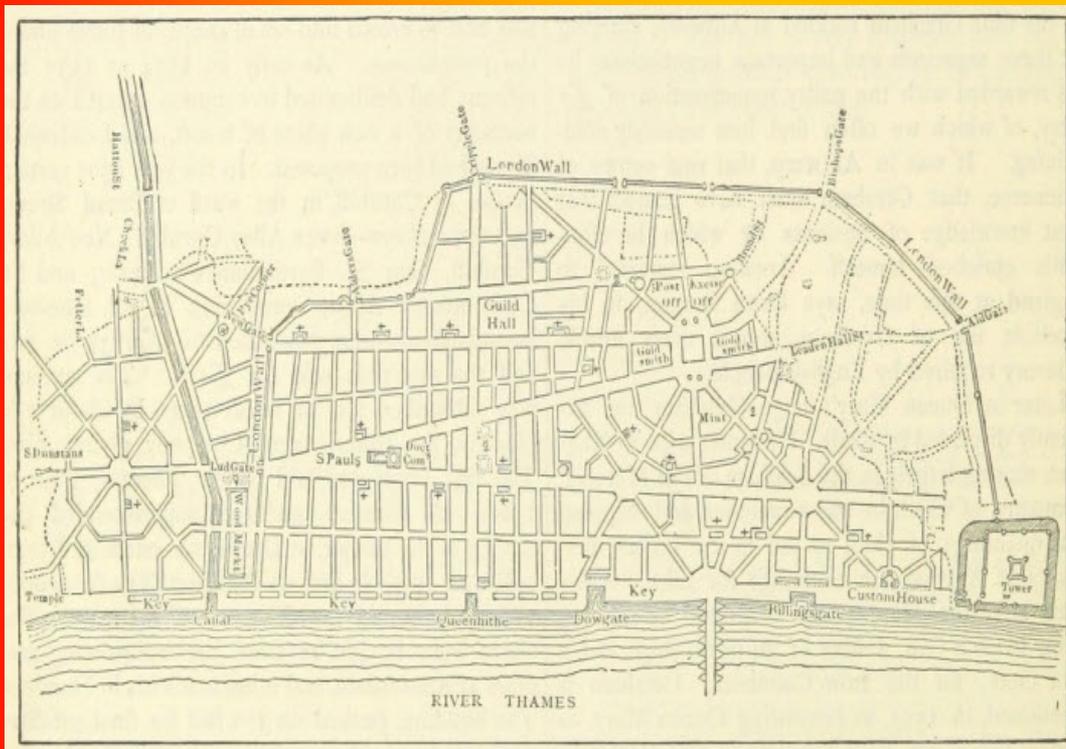
no more timber framed buildings

buildings should not be too high

There should be 50 new churches including a new St. Paul's Cathedral.



Sir Christopher Wren planned a new layout for the London streets. It took fifty years to rebuild, and this time the houses were built from stone instead of wood.



## THE MONUMENT

THIS MONUMENT DESIGNED BY SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN, WAS BUILT TO COMMEMORATE THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON 1666, WHICH BURNED FOR THREE DAYS CONSUMING MORE THAN 13,000 HOUSES AND DEVASTATING 436 ACRES OF THE CITY. THE MONUMENT IS 202 FT IN HEIGHT, BEING EQUAL TO THE DISTANCE WESTWARD FROM THE BAKEHOUSE IN PUDDING LANE WHERE THE FIRE BROKE OUT. IT TOOK SIX YEARS TO CONSTRUCT 1671-1677. THE BALCONY IS REACHED BY A SPIRAL STAIRWAY OF 311 STEPS AND AFFORDS PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE METROPOLIS. A SUPERSTRUCTURE RISES FROM THE BALCONY AND SUPPORTS A COPPER VASE OF FLAMES. THE ALLEGORICAL SCULPTURE ON THE PEDESTAL ABOVE WAS EXECUTED BY CAIUS GABRIEL CIBBER.

TIMES OF OPENING AND CLOSING  
9.30 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY

CONCESSIONS £ 2-00  
ADMISSION: ADULT £ 3-00 CHILD £ 1-50

### ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR

FISH STREET HILL, TO THE SOUTH, LEADS TO ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR (A WREN CHURCH),  
ALONGSIDE WHICH, IS THE ANCIENT FOOTPATH WHICH LED TO THE FIRST LONDON BRIDGE.

He also designed a monument to commemorate The Great Fire of London.



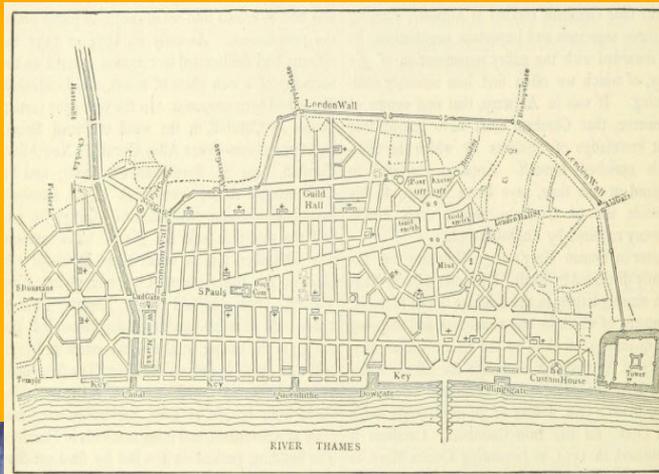


In 1667, the "Fire Office" was established employing teams of Thames Watermen as fire-fighters and provided them with brightly coloured uniforms, arm badges and buttons showing the company to which they belonged.

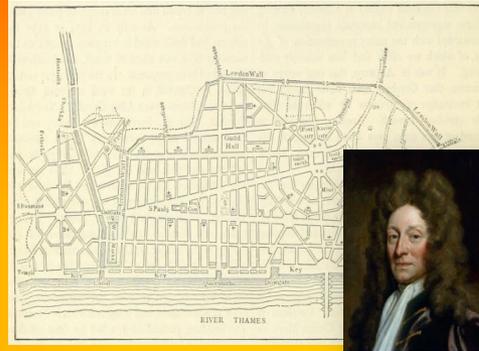
Since then, the fire service has continued to develop into what we have today. Far more technical fire fighting equipment is used now than in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.



Can you write a letter to Thomas Farriner to explain the advantages of the Great Fire to him?



# The advantages of The Great Fire of London



plague 1665

rats

fleas

beak doctor

petals

red cross

ring-a ring o'roses

Sir Christopher Wren

redesigned

wider streets

stone buildings

new churches

50 years

monument

fire service

fire engines

fire station

uniform

water hose

technical equipment

safer