

# London and the Great Fire

In 1666, a huge fire that started in a tiny bakery burned down most of London. The fire was so big that it was called the Great Fire of London.

The fire lasted four days, and burned down over 13,000 homes. There are a lot of reasons why the fire was so large, mostly to do with the way houses were built – a lot of them were made from wood, and were very close together.

## Samuel Pepys



Samuel Pepys witnessed the Great Fire of London in 1666. We know lots about this event from his diary. Samuel Pepys has an unusual last name. You say it like this – 'Peeps'. Pepys saved his Parmesan cheese and wine from the Great Fire of London.

### Science vocabulary:

metal plastic wood fabric  
rubber glass paper ceramic  
brick stone

hard soft rigid flexible  
elastic brittle transparent  
opaque smooth rough  
magnetic waterproof fragile