

Fire and Flames

Session takes approx. 75 mins

Aim: To re-enforce knowledge of the Great Fire of London. To investigate how and why fires started in wooden buildings, using Headstone Manor as the example. To discover what changes were made after the fire.

Session breakdown

Whole class discussion. The children learn the story of the Great Fire, through discussion and interactive role play. It is helpful (but not vital) if the children have studied the Great Fire in some way before the trip.

House Activity (half the class): Going into Headstone Manor really shows the children what buildings were like at the time of the great fire. They investigate how buildings were kept warm, how they were lit up, how they were constructed and how this adds up to a great big fire risk!

Creative Activity (half the class):

Several changes happened after the Great Fire, including building in brick and paying into insurance. We explain this in a child friendly way and the children make their own fire insurance plaque, using the Sun Insurance plaque at Headstone as their guide.

Curriculum Links:

- **History:** events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally
- **Art:** use a range of materials to design and make products
- **Science:** describe simple properties of everyday materials