

# Big Question: Why do we celebrate Bonfire Night today?

## ★ Star Vocabulary ★

**Plot:** A plan made in secret by a group of people to do something illegal or harmful.

**Execute:** Carry out a death sentence of death on a criminal.

**Treason:** The crime of betraying your country by trying to kill the king or queen.

**The Gunpowder Plot:** A plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament to kill King James I and his government.

**Catholics:** Members of the Catholic church.

**Protestants:** Christians who are not Catholic.

**Houses of Parliament:** The building in London where the government works.

**Gunpowder:** An explosive powder that was used in guns.

Early learning goals – Can you discuss why this happened?

Year 2 Great Fire of London – significant events

### Sticky Facts

- The Gunpowder Plot was a **plot** to kill **King James I** and his government by blowing up the Houses of Parliament.
- Guy Fawkes was **executed** because he committed the crime of treason (31st January 1606). Over 400 years ago!
- We celebrate **Bonfire night** because King James I ordered that people should celebrate his survival on the **5th November**.
- Some people light **bonfires** and burn 'guys' (puppets made of straw, named after Guy Fawkes) to or light **fireworks** to celebrate.



Fireworks

Bonfire



### Significant Figures

The plotters were Robert Catesby, **Guy Fawkes**, Thomas Percy, and five of their friends.



King James I



Guy Fawkes

## Think like a Historian

- I can use a timeline to locate when people and events exist or existed.
- I can use common words and phrases like before, after, yesterday, last week etc.
- I can use some historical terms like traditional, ancestor, discovery etc.
- I can understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past.
- I can ask and answer questions choosing and using parts of stories and other sources to show that I know and understand key features of events.

24th March 1603  
King James I becomes King of England.

May 1604  
The group begin to plot against King James I.

Timeline of Events

13th April 1570  
Guy Fawkes is born.

March 1605  
The plotters rent a cellar under the Houses of Parliament.

5th November 1605  
Guy Fawkes is found in the cellar with 36 barrels of gunpowder by the king's guards.

26th October 1605  
Lord Monteagle, who is a Catholic, receives an unsigned letter that warns him not to go to the opening of Parliament on the 5th November.

31st January 1606  
Guy Fawkes is executed.