

How did people fight the Great Fire?

**LONDON
MUSEUM**

Firefighting in the 17th century was very different from today. Here are some of the items that were used to fight the Great Fire of London.



This bucket is the same kind that was used to fight the Great Fire. The bucket is made of leather with a layer of pitch, which is like tar, on the inside. This helped make it waterproof. The buckets had to be looked after carefully or they might split!



Hooks like these were very useful in fighting the fire. They had a wooden handle and an iron hook at the end. They were usually very big, and could be 4 metres long and weigh 35kg.



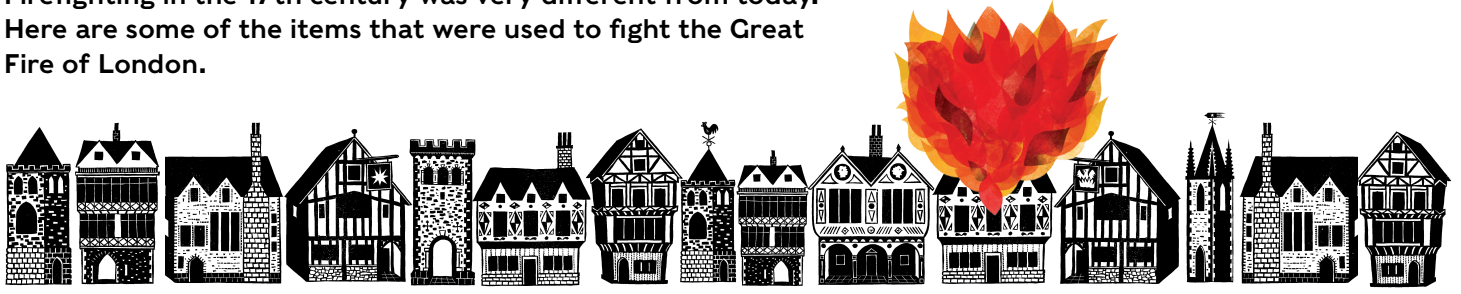
Fire squirts like this were used to fight the fire. After the Great Fire, a new law said that every parish needed to have two of them. They worked like a very big syringe. Made of metal, these were really heavy and took two or three people to use properly.



Leather helmets like this were worn during the Great Fire. The top is very solid, and the back has a long part which covers the wearer's neck.

How did people fight the Great Fire?

Firefighting in the 17th century was very different from today. Here are some of the items that were used to fight the Great Fire of London.



In groups of 3 or 4, look at each item carefully and read the information and the questions. Spend a few minutes in your groups talking about your answers and then write your own answers in the spaces below.

1

What is it?

How was it used?

How did it help stop the fire?

What would be some problems using this to fight fires?

2

What is it?

How was it used?

How did it help stop the fire?

What would be some problems using this to fight fires?

3

What is it?

How was it used?

How did it help stop the fire?

What would be some problems using this to fight fires?

4

What is it?

How was it used?

How did it help stop the fire?

What would be some problems using this to fight fires?