



# Reading 6

## 1 Read.

### THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Would you like to be a firefighter? Firefighting is a dangerous job, but it can be exciting, too.

350 years ago in London, there weren't any firefighters. On 2nd September 1666, a fire started in a bakery. It moved quickly to other buildings because it was a windy day and because there were lots of wooden houses in the city. Wood burns quickly.



The people who lived near the bakery used water to fight the fire. They carried the water in buckets. They also pulled buildings down to try to stop the fire. This picture shows people in London fighting the fire.



The fire continued to burn. It was huge and it burned for about five days. It destroyed 13,200 houses and 87 small churches. It also destroyed St Paul's Cathedral. Today you can visit St Paul's Cathedral but it is a 'new' one – it is only about 300 years old.

Today, there are thousands of firefighters in the UK. Most of them are men, but women can be firefighters, too. All firefighters wear helmets and special clothes that protect them from fire. This photo shows three firefighters wearing special clothes and helmets.



### Glossary



bakery



burn (verb)



bucket



church



destroy