

Playstage

Junior

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THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON



A fun Class Assembly or Presentation



Written by

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THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

PRODUCTION NOTES

This school assembly has been written for a class of approximately 30, to be performed over approximately 30 minutes. It includes factual comments, an acting element songs. For a longer assembly, other elements could be added. Although the assembly has been written for 30 students, the assembly can easily be adapted for a smaller class of 15, or larger of 45 by reallocating the lines between the children.

COSTUMES

Costumes are not necessary, but may add to the visual effect of the play. Should full costumes not be possible, or practical as part of the assembly, hats/wigs with no further costume could be used. The roles within the play are as follows, along with suggested head costume:

Samuel Pepys – Long wig

Charles II - Black hat with feather

Maid of Thomas Farynor – maids outfit, cap

Jane, Maid of Samuel Pepys – maids outfit, cap

Thomas Farynor (the Kings Baker) – Bakers hat/apron

Lord Mayor, Thomas Bloodworth – Long wig, chain around neck

Navy Admiral – Nautical themed hat

NOTE: The following visuals, typical of costumes of the period, may help you to assemble costumes:



VISUALS

Pictures are not essential to this presentation but they would enhance it. We have given some examples in the text. Depending on what equipment available to you, or how much you want the class to have an input to producing the visuals, these images can either be hi-tech or low tech. In other words, you could source images to your computer and display them remotely on a display unit on the stage or you could have a flipchart that displays artwork the children have done which is flipped over by one of the children to reveal the next image to illustrate the presentation. You can easily access a wealth of visuals by typing "Images of (subject matter)" into your search engine.

VISUAL EFFECT FOR THE FIRE SPREADING

We suggest that all your children carry a painting of flames. When the fire starts, just one child at the end of the front row, holds up their painting. As the fire progresses, more children can hold up their picture and, eventually, all of them will be holding up a picture of flames to show that the whole of London is ablaze.

SONGS

The following songs are suggested in the assembly, however could be easily substitute with other relevant tunes.

LONDON'S BURNING (*sung unaccompanied, as a round*)

LONDON BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN (*unaccompanied*)

FIRE DOWN BELOW (*unaccompanied*) MP3 available on Amazon.

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Fire-Down->

[Below/dp/B005923YVG/ref=sr_1_57?s=dmusic&ie=UTF8&qid=1433246034&sr=1-57&keywords=sea+shanties](http://www.amazon.co.uk/B005923YVG/ref=sr_1_57?s=dmusic&ie=UTF8&qid=1433246034&sr=1-57&keywords=sea+shanties)

SOUND EFFECTS

The sound of flames crackling can be downloaded for free from the internet here:

<http://www.freesfx.co.uk/soundeffects/fires/>

(We suggest the sound effect of a large brush fire)

Explosions

<http://www.freesfx.co.uk/soundeffects/explosions/>

(We suggest Explosion Single Large 12 – to be repeated several times)

PROPS

Cloak for SAMUEL PEPYS

Buckets for fire fighters

Paintings of flames

Paintings of The Great Fire

THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

A Key Stage 1 Class Assembly

The children walk onto the stage/front of assembly, singing 'London's Burning' in an order so that they stand on the stage in 2 or 3 rows. (Perhaps first row sitting, second row standing and third row standing on a bench.) It would help if the order that they stand are the order that lines are assigned to help remind them that it is their turn to speak.

SONG:

London's burning, London's burning.

Fetch the engines, fetch the engines.

Fire fire, Fire Fire!

Pour on water, pour on water.

London's burning, London's burning.

Fetch the engines, fetch the engines.

Fire fire, Fire Fire!

Pour on water, pour on water.

London's burning, London's burning.

Fetch the engines, fetch the engines.

Fire fire, Fire Fire!

Pour on water, pour on water.

Pour on water, pour on water.

Pour on water, pour on water.

CHILD 1

Welcome everyone to our class assembly. Today we would like to tell you a story of something we have been learning about, something that happened a long time ago, The Great Fire of London.

CHILD 2

The Fire of London took place in 1666. That is over 350 years ago! In 1666, there were no mobile telephones, no telephones of any kind. There was no electricity, no televisions and no x boxes.