

## Bonfire



## Night

### What Is Bonfire Night?

Bonfire Night is also known as Guy Fawkes Night or Fireworks Night. It is celebrated on the 5<sup>th</sup> November each year. This date is the anniversary of the failed Gunpowder Plot in 1605.

### What Was the Gunpowder Plot?

There was a plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London in 1605. A man called Guy Fawkes was part of this plot and hid barrels of gunpowder in the cellars below the Houses of Parliament.



The plan was to light the gunpowder when King James I and the government were inside. Guy Fawkes was caught and arrested by the guards. The failed plot became known as the Gunpowder Plot.

King James I wanted to **commemorate** the Gunpowder Plot's failure so Bonfire Night began as a celebration of the plot's end. The first Bonfire Night was on 5<sup>th</sup> November in 1606.

Did You Know...?

**The Houses of Parliament are still searched today! It is a tradition that the Yeomen of the Guard search the Houses of Parliament before the State Opening every year.**

## How Do People Celebrate Bonfire Night?

Bonfire night is celebrated with bonfires and fireworks on or around the 5<sup>th</sup> November. Some people get together with friends and family to have a Bonfire Night party at home. Many people go to organised events with large bonfires and fireworks displays.

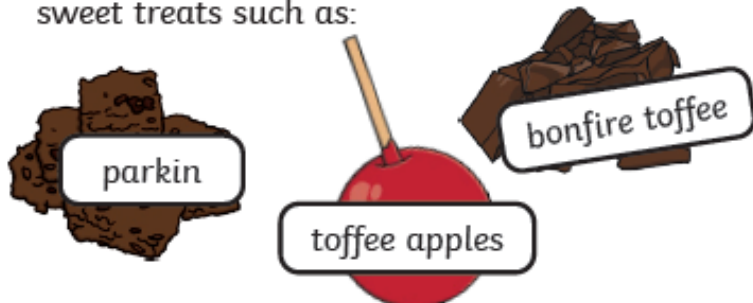


### Fun Fact

The first recorded firework display in England was at a royal wedding. It was the wedding of Henry VII.

### Bonfire Night Foods

There are some foods that are traditionally eaten on Bonfire Night. Many of them are sweet treats such as:



### Glossary

#### commemorate:

To mark or celebrate an event by doing something.

#### plot:

A plan made in secret to do something harmful.

# Questions

1. When was the first Bonfire Night? Tick one.

- 5<sup>th</sup> November 1606
- 5<sup>th</sup> November 1604
- 5<sup>th</sup> November 1605
- 6<sup>th</sup> November 1605

2. Number the sentences from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- There was a plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London in 1605.
- Bonfire night is celebrated with bonfires and fireworks on or around the 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- 1 Bonfire Night is also known as Guy Fawkes Night or Fireworks Night.
- The first Bonfire Night was on 5<sup>th</sup> November in 1606.

3. Fill in the missing word.

King James I wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ the Gunpowder Plot's failure so Bonfire Night began as a celebration of the plot's end.

4. Look at the sub-heading **How Do People Celebrate Bonfire Night?**

Find and copy one word which means the same as 'big'.

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5. How do people celebrate Bonfire Night?

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6. Why do you think Bonfire Night is celebrated with fires and fireworks?

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