

THE GUNPOWDER PLOT



The Gunpowder Plot Activity Pack

Welcome to Heritage Doncaster's the Gunpowder Plot activity pack. This booklet is filled with ideas that you can have a go at as a family at home whilst learning about the Gunpowder Plot.



Some of these activities will require adult supervision as they require using an oven, a sharp implement, or could just be a bit tricky these have been marked with this warning triangle.

We would love to see what you create so why not share your photos with us on social media or email

You can find us at



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Have Fun!

Heritage Doncaster Education Service

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What was the Gunpowder Plot?

The Gunpowder Plot was a plan made by thirteen men to blow up the Houses of Parliament when King James I was inside.



The Houses of Parliament is an important building in London where the government meet. It is made up of the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

King James I believed in the divine right of Kings which meant he was the the political and religious leader of the country and his right to rule came directly from God and he could not be questioned.

James was a protestant but there was a lot of unrest in the country from Catholics left over from when the Tudors were in charge. Many hoped that he would treat Catholics better than Elizabeth I but this didn't seem to be the case. This led to a group of men plan to blow up Parliament and kill James I.

It was the plan for this to happen on 5th November 1605 which would have been the State Opening of Parliament, which is an event that happens after there has been a break and the King or Queen makes a speech. As the Gunpowder Plot was organised to be on the State Opening of Parliament, every year the guards still perform a search of the building as it has become tradition.

The Plotters

There were thirteen men involved in the Gunpowder Plot. The man in charge was Robert Catesby. The first meeting was held in May 1604 at a pub in London. Robert met three of his friends there, Thomas Wintour, John Wright and Thomas Percy. The other man at the meeting was Guido Fawkes or as you may know him Guy Fawkes. Over the next few months the men involved members of their families, Robert Keyes, Robert Wintour, John Grant and Christopher Wright. One of Robert Catesby's servants Thomas Bates also became involved with the plot.

This number rose again as they recruited a few more people. They were Ambrose Rookwood, Francis Tresham and Sir Everard Digby. Ambrose and Everard were both wealthy men and owned lots of horses which the plotters thought would come in useful. Francis Tresham was Robert Catesby's cousin.



Plotters Top Trumps

Have a go at researching the plotters then give them all a score out of 100 on the trump cards and have a game with somebody at home.

Robert Catesby



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Thomas Wintour



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

John Wright



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Thomas Percy



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Guido Fawkes



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Robert Keyes



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Robert Wintour



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

John Grant



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Christopher Wright



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Ambrose Rookwood



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Francis Tresham



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Sir Everard Digby



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Thomas Bates



bravery	
money	
commitment	
helpful	
rebellious	

Remember, remember



www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7hHL33IQ0I

This video is a well-known poem about the Gunpowder Plot

*Remember, remember the 5th of November
Gunpowder treason and plot
I see no reason
why gunpowder treason
should ever be forgot
Guy Fawkes Guy Fawkes twas his intent
To blow up the King and the Parliament
Three score barrels of powder below
Poor old England to overthrow
By God's providence he was caught
with a dark lantern and a burning match
Holla boys holla boys let the bells ring
Holla boys holla boys God save the king*

Acrostic Poem

Why don't you have a go at writing your own poem about the Gunpowder Plot or you could have a go at writing a poem about bonfire night and fireworks.

If you are stuck for ideas why don't you have a go at one of these acrostic poems.

Acrostic poem – An acrostic poem is a poem where certain letters in each line spell out a word or phrase. Typically, the first letters of each line are used to spell the message, but they can appear anywhere.

G
U
N
P
O
W
D
E
R

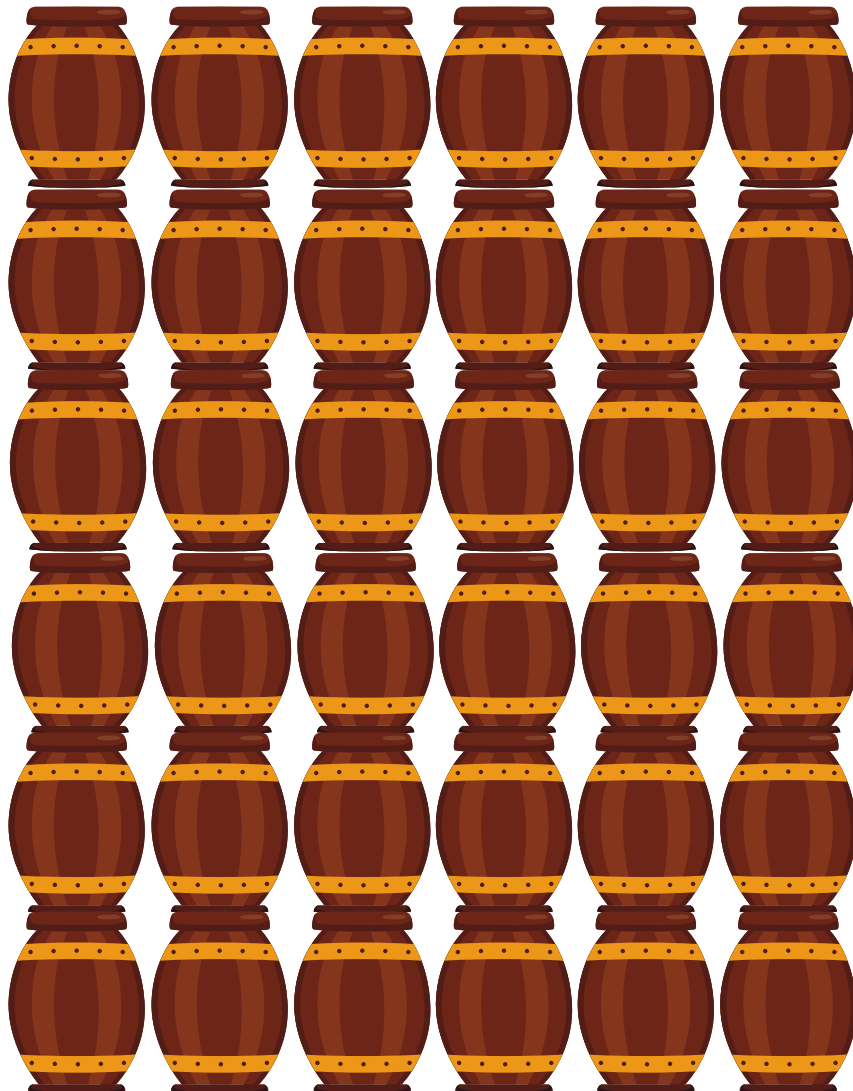
F
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Tunnels

Thomas Percy, one of the plotters had a house next to the Houses of Parliament. Guy Fawkes moved in with Thomas, pretending that he was his servant. Guy used a fake name which was John Johnson. It was his job to dig a tunnel under the House of Lords. However, this did not go to plan as it was taking too long and the plotters were worried that they would not reach the cellars in time. It was decided that Thomas Percy would also rent out a space directly under the House of Lords, were the State Opening of Parliament was due to take place.

The plotters moved 36 barrels of gunpowder into the room.



Build a Tunnel

Have a go at building your own tunnels. Grab whatever you can find around your home such as cardboard boxes, blankets and tubes and build some tunnels to crawl through like Guy Fawkes planned to do.



Mysterious Letter

Ten days before the plot, a letter was delivered to William Parker, a member of the house of Lords. The letter was warning him about the plot.

Today experts are still not sure who sent the letter. Some people think that it was one of the plotters, Francis Tresham, as William was married to Francis' sister.

The letter was one of the biggest reasons why the plot failed. The letter got shown to Robert Cecil, who was a very important man and an advisor of the King.

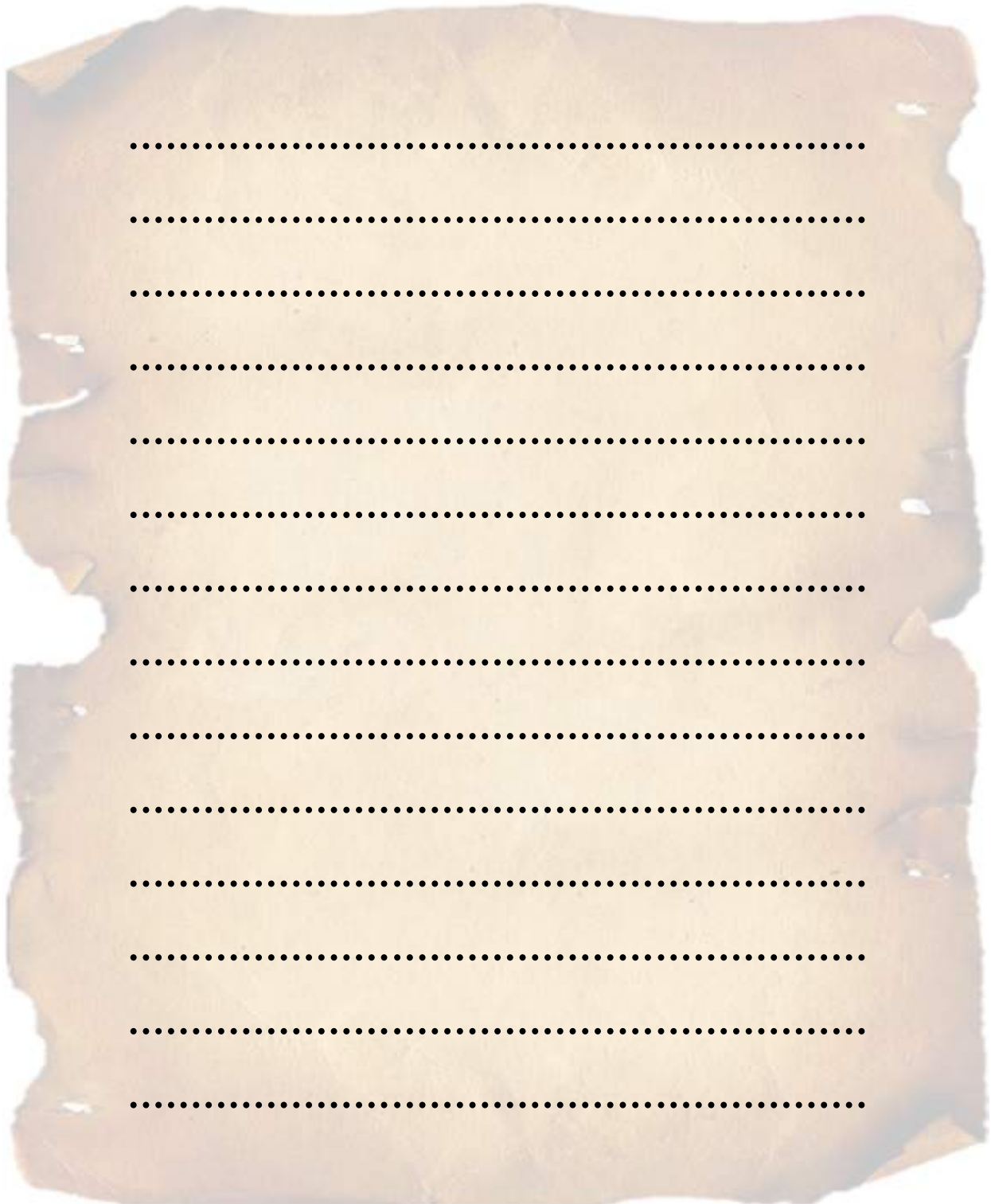
The letter is what led to the basement of the Houses of Parliament being searched and Guy Fawkes being found with the barrels of gunpowder.



My Lord, out of the love I bear to some of your friends, I have a care of your preservation. Therefore I would advise you, as you tender your life, to devise some excuse to shift your attendance at this parliament; for God and man hath concurred to punish the wickedness of this time. And think not slightly of this advertisement, but retire yourself into your country where you may expect the event in safety. For though there be no appearance of any stir, yet I say they shall receive a terrible blow this Parliament; and yet they shall not see who hurts them. This counsel is not to be condemned because it may do you good and can do you no harm; for the danger is passed as soon as you have burnt the letter. And I hope God will give you the grace to make good use of it, to whose holy protection I commend you.

Letter Writing

Now it's your turn. You know about the Gunpowder Plot, maybe you're one of the 13 plotters. Someone you know is going to be in Parliament on the day of the plot. What would write in a letter to them? How would you warn them? Remember you don't want anyone to know that it is you that has sent the letter.



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Escape and Capture

After Guy Fawkes had been discovered he told the guard that his name was John Johnson. He was questioned over a number of days about the plot and he eventually shared the details of the plot and who was involved.

Here is a link to the National Archives website, where you can see the signed confession from Guy Fawkes
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/museum/item.asp?item_id=19

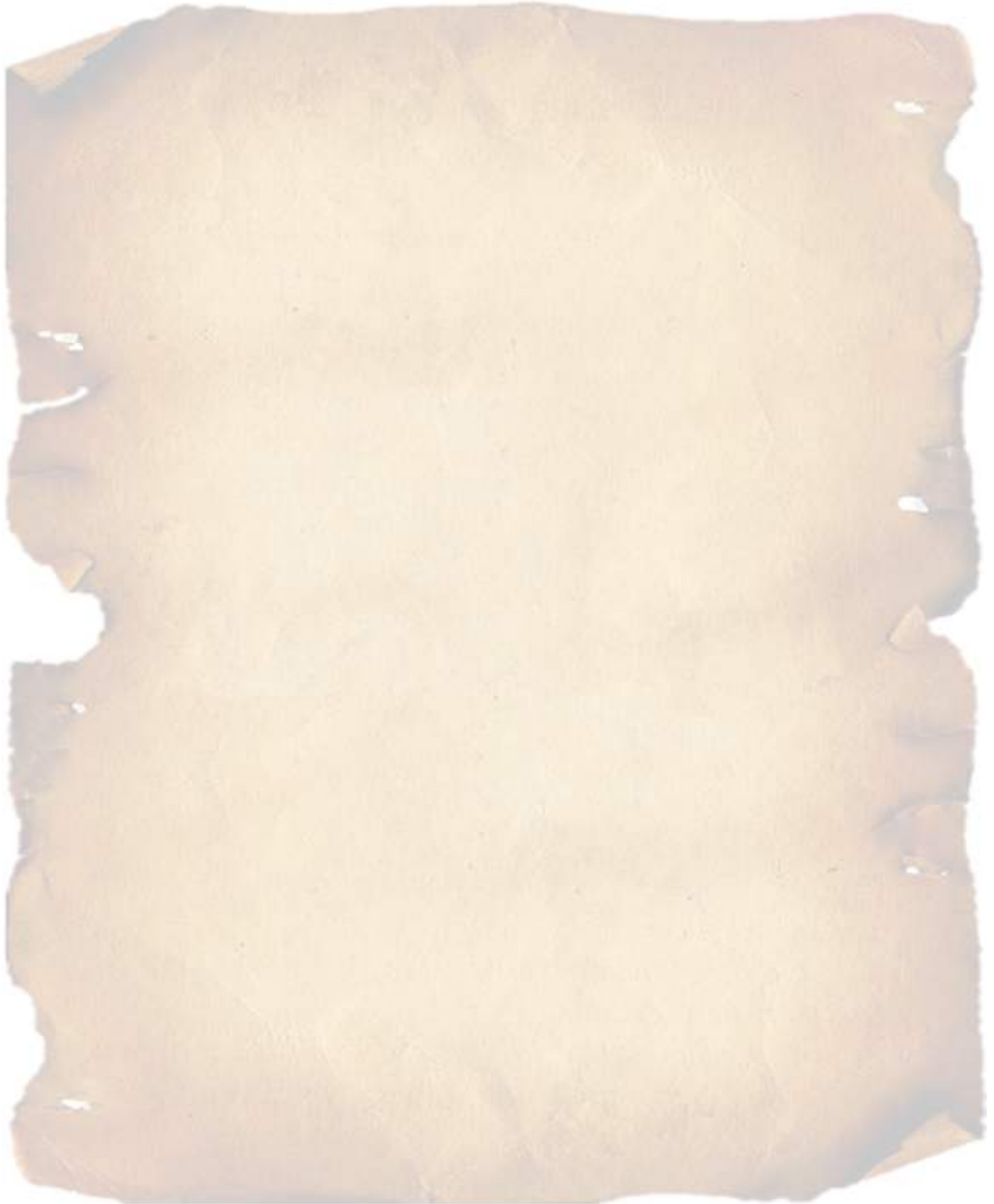
The news that Guy Fawkes had been caught quickly got to the other plotters and they ran away on horses from London. Their journey was a very wet one as it was pouring with rain. The men were carrying some gunpowder with them so when they got to the house they were travelling to in the Midlands they decided to try and dry it out in front of the fire. This caused an explosion, and it alerted the Sheriff and a group of men that had been looking for them. Four of the plotters, including leader Robert Catesby, were killed in a showdown between the two groups.

Five of the plotters managed to escape but were found and arrested, there was only one man, Robert Wintour that was left to be found by the end of the month. He was eventually captured in January, two months after the discovery of the plot.

At the end of January all of the men's trials began and they were all found guilty.

Wanted!

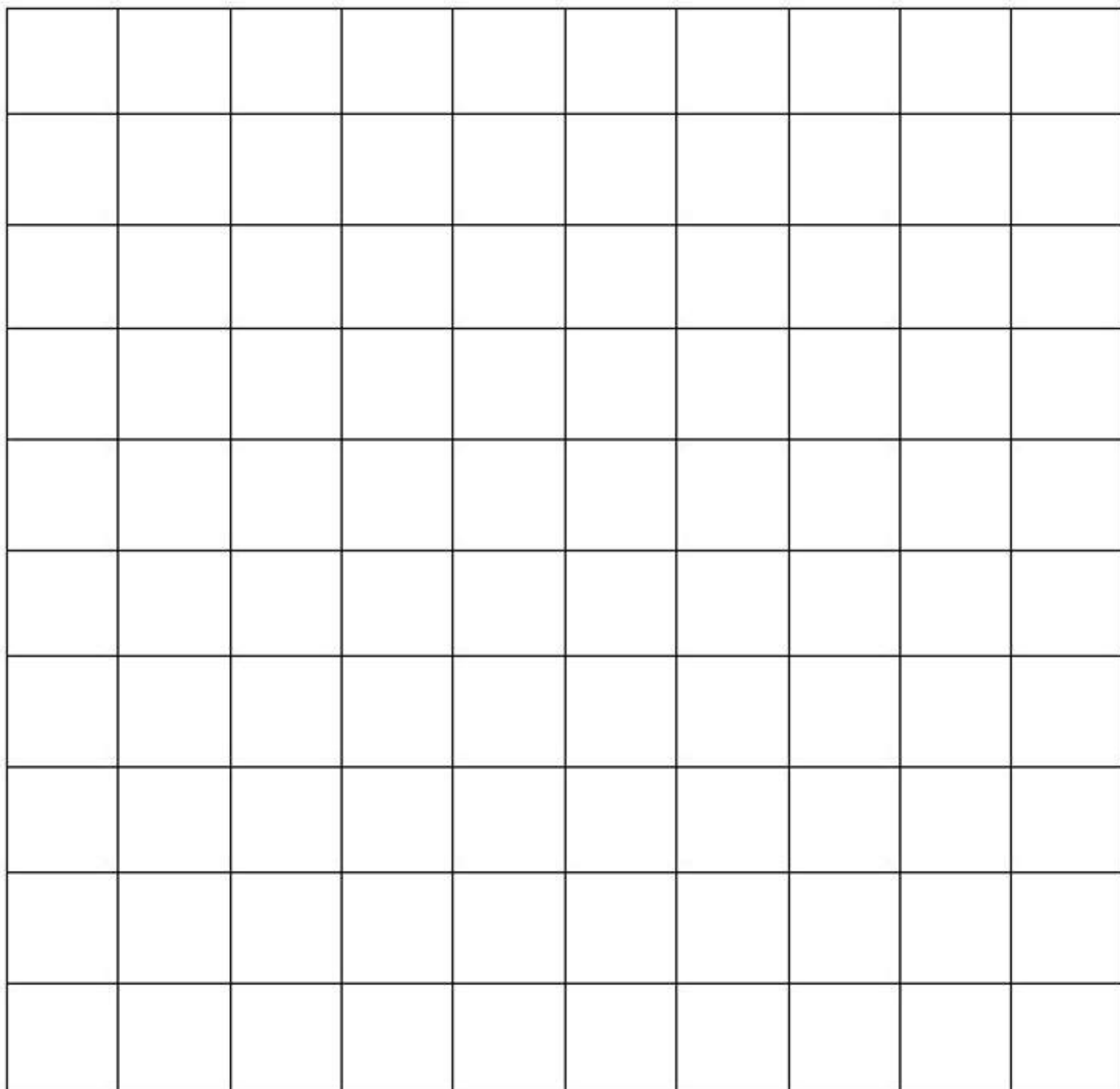
Have a go at making a wanted poster for Robert Wintour.



Create a Board Game

Now that you know the events of the Gunpowder Plot have a go at creating a boardgame. You could make it like snakes and ladders. You could create event cards to help or hinder players, or maybe there will be information on the spaces of the board. Will your game use a dice or a spinner? How do you win?

We have included this template to get you started but yo could make your board however you like.



Guy Fawkes Night

Bonfire Night is officially called Guy Fawkes Night as many countries around the world have their own bonfire nights celebrating different things. Guy Fawkes Night is an event that happens in the United Kingdom on 5 November every year. In 1605, the year of the Gunpowder Plot, bonfires were lit around London to celebrate the safety of the King after Guy Fawkes had been discovered under the Houses of Parliament. The following year Parliament declared 5 November as a day of thanksgiving. This is the reason we still have Guy Fawkes Night today, to commemorate the failure of the plot. We have fireworks to represent the explosives that were never used.



Firework Art

There are many different ways that you can create a firework art piece. Why don't you have a go at all of them and see which you like best!

You can use whatever paper you like for these but they look great on black paper as it looks like the night sky.

Method 1- Paint Splatters

This one is probably the messiest. You could try this one outside, or make sure you put plenty of newspaper down first!

Now all you need to do is pick your favourite colours, dip your paintbrush in and flick the paint onto the page.



Method 2 - Forks

Squeeze blobs of paint out on different trays.

Dip the back of a fork into the paint.

Print the fork onto your paper around in a circle.

Select a different colour and repeat.

Method 3 - Glitter

Make different firework patterns with PVA glue on your piece of paper.

Take a spreader or blow the glue through a straw to spread out the glue.

Now choose your glitter colours and sprinkle over the glue.

Shake off any excess glitter carefully on to a plate.





Method 4 – Pipe Cleaner or Straw Stamps

Gather together around 6-8 bendy straws or pipe cleaners and tie them together.

Splay the ends out to make a star shape.

Dip in your paint and print it onto your page.

Method 5 – Crayons

Pick your favourite colours and colour in an entire page in using crayons.

Once you have done paint the entire page black.

Now all you need to do is wait for the paint to dry and then scratch off firework shapes and you will reveal colourful patterns.



Method 6 – Shaving Foam

This one is a bit messy! Fill a tray with shaving foam and spread it out.

Using food colouring put blobs of colour around the tray.

Using a tooth pick or something similar start in the centre of the blobs and draw outwards. Do this a few times around each blob to create firework patterns.

Next get a sheet of paper and lay it over the shaving foam. The firework patterns you have created should print onto the page if you pat gently.

Remove the excess shaving foam and leave to dry.

Method 7 – Paint Handprints

Pour paint into a tray or onto a plate.

Dip your hand into the paint and print it on the paper, then repeat, this three four or five times rotating your hand around for each new print, try using different colours.





Rocket Experiment

This is a good one for the garden!

What you will need:

- plastic bottle
- vinegar
- bicarbonate soda
- pencils
- duct tape
- hammer and nail
- items to decorate your rocket
- funnel



What you need to do:

1. Decorate your bottle so that it looks like a rocket firework.
2. Take the pencils and tape them to the bottle at the end with the opening. Make sure they are level and that enough sticks out so that you can stand the bottle up.
3. Take a hammer and nail and make a hole in the bottle cap.
4. Using the funnel place about 3 tablespoons of bicarbonate soda into the bottom of the bottle.
5. Pour the vinegar into the bottle so it is about half full.
6. Quickly put the lid on and cover the hole with your thumb.
7. Give the bottle a little shake, whilst still covering the hole.
8. Put the bottle on the floor, stand on the pencils and let go.
9. Watch your rocket fly.

Penny for a Guy

Penny for a Guy is an old bonfire tradition where you would make a 'Guy' out of old rags and clothes, a bit like a scarecrow. He would sometimes be put outside shops or wheeled around a village to raise money to buy fireworks for the local bonfire display. On bonfire night the guy would have been thrown onto the bonfire to burn.



Sew your own Guy



Use this template to have a go at making your own little Guy. See what scrap fabric you have around the house, maybe it's an old T-shirt or you have some felt. Use wool or thread to stitch around the edge.

Follow this video link to see how to do a running stitch

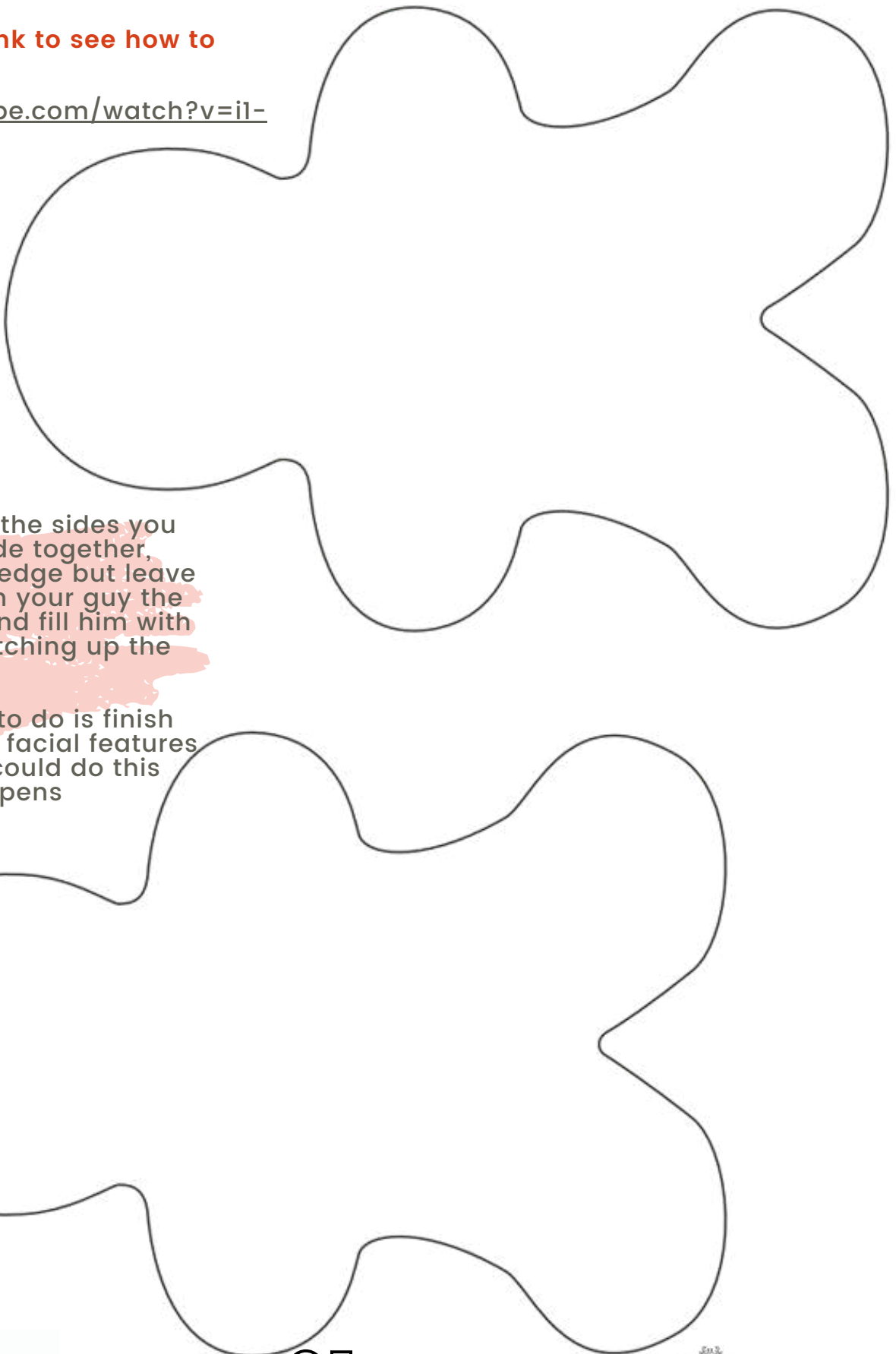


www.youtube.com/watch?v=il-B01FB56s

Top Tips

Remember to put the sides you want on the outside together, stitch around the edge but leave a 2-3cm gap. Turn your guy the right way round and fill him with stuffing before stitching up the hole.

Now all you need to do is finish him off with some facial features and clothes. You could do this with some felt tip pens



Traditional Bonfire Night Food

Over the years, certain foods have become associated with bonfire night. For many of these foods, the reasons why are unknown but they have become tradition

Tradition – A tradition is something that we do or say at a specific event or specific time. This is something that gets passed on through generations and the same thing is repeated through time.



Parkin – Parkin is a sponge cake. It is from Northern England. It is mostly linked to Yorkshire and Lancashire. It has a ginger flavour to it.



Bonfire Toffee – Bonfire toffee is made from treacle. A dark, sticky, sweet syrup. It is a hard sweet. You can often get bonfire toffee as a lollipop.



Baked Potatoes



Hot Dogs



Pie and Peas



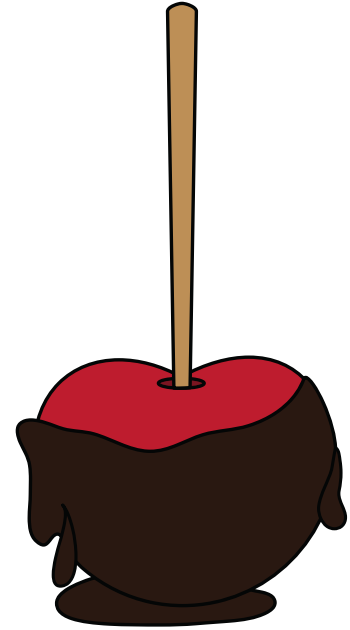
Toffee Apples



Chocolate Covered Apples

What you will need:

- lollipop sticks or wooden skewers
- 4 medium apples
- 250g milk, white or dark chocolate
- decorations of your choice – chopped nuts, sprinkles edible glitter, crushed biscuits – whatever takes your fancy!
- saucepan
- glass bowl
- baking tray
- mixing spoon



1. Wash your apples to remove their waxy coating. This will help the chocolate stick
2. Pull out the apple stalks and push in your lollipop sticks.
3. Put your chocolate into a glass bowl and put it over a pan of hot water and melt the chocolate.
4. Remove the chocolate from the heat and then dip each apple into the chocolate, making sure you turn it around to get a good coating all over.
5. Now dip your apples into whatever you have decided to decorate your apples with.
6. Place the decorated apples on a tray and leave them in the fridge to cool for about 15 minutes or until the chocolate has gone hard.
7. Enjoy!

Wordsearch

K	P	R	O	T	E	S	T	A	N	T	S	U	E
I	D	Z	G	U	Y	F	A	W	K	E	S	K	G
N	G	U	N	P	O	W	D	E	R	B	B	Y	C
G	B	O	N	F	I	R	E	S	T	P	V	N	A
J	F	Q	E	S	Q	C	I	N	P	L	O	T	T
A	A	M	B	O	I	T	E	R	G	S	F	C	E
M	I	T	W	L	A	M	E	L	A	W	I	A	S
E	L	O	M	D	A	B	N	E	L	L	V	T	B
S	U	W	L	I	M	U	R	D	F	A	C	H	Y
Z	R	E	L	E	Y	T	L	N	R	S	R	O	V
U	E	R	V	R	S	M	O	V	T	K	P	L	O
H	A	O	E	J	I	C	A	M	U	N	H	I	U
P	N	H	P	D	B	A	R	R	E	L	S	C	O
F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S	X	O	A	S	U

Barrels
Bonfires
Catesby
Catholics
Cellar
Conflict

Failure
Fireworks
Gunpowder
Guy Fawkes
King James
November

Parliament
Plot
Protestants
Soldier
Tower
Treason