

# St Paul's Cathedral



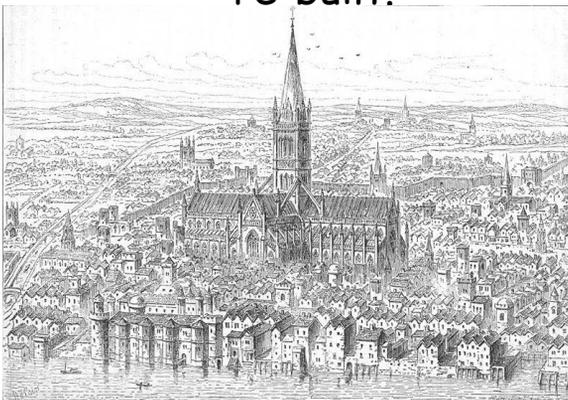
St Paul's Cathedral has been rebuilt many times. The building that we know today was completed on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1708 but the first church to be built here was finished nearly 1400 years ago!

Lots of famous people are buried at St Paul's including Sir Winston Churchill, Florence Nightingale, Horatio Nelson and Dr Samuel Johnson who wrote the first ever dictionary!

## Did you know?

The dome of the cathedral is 100 metres tall and you have to climb 530 steps to reach the top!

This is what St Paul's would have looked like 500 years ago. In 1561, the spire was destroyed by lightning and it was never re-built.



After the Great Fire of London, St Paul's was rebuilt by Christopher Wren. This is his plan for the new building.

# Tower Bridge



Tower Bridge was opened on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1894. It is open to cars and pedestrians and is crossed by 40,000 people every day! You can pay to go up the towers and walk across the walkway between them.

## Jumping Bridge!

In 1952 a bus driver jumped over a gap in bridge as it was mistakenly opening. None of his passengers was hurt and he received £10 for his bravery!

## Did you know?

People sometimes call Tower Bridge 'London Bridge' by mistake - that's the next one along the river!



The bridge can open to let boats through. This happens about 1000 times a year.

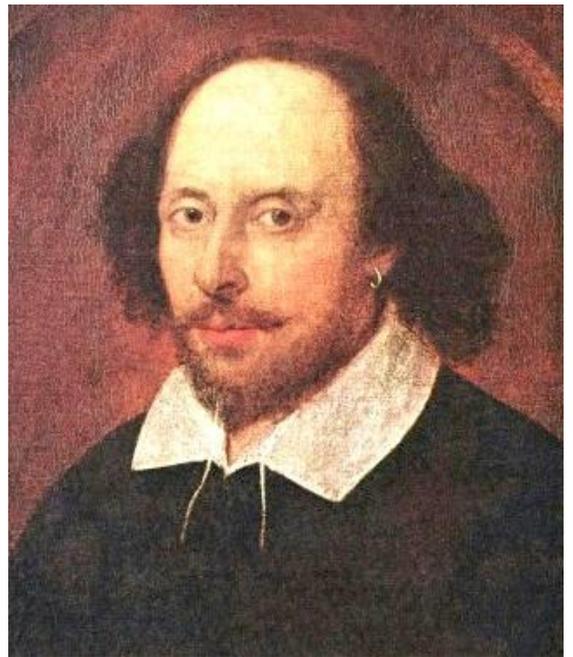
# The Globe Theatre



The first Globe theatre was built in 1599 but was destroyed by fire on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1613. The one in London today is a new version built in 1997. It is about 230 metres away from where the original theatre was.

## Did you know?

The Globe can hold 3000 people for the plays that are still performed there. If you want to get the cheapest tickets you have to stand up for the whole play!



This is a picture of the first Globe theatre, drawn in the year 1638.



Many of William Shakespeare's plays were performed at the Globe. Most people think he was the best 'playwright' ever and he wrote lots of very famous plays including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*.

# The Tate Modern



The Tate Modern is England's national museum of modern art. It was opened as a museum in May 2000 and by 2007 over 5 million had visited it.

## Did you know?

The museum is being enlarged in time for London hosting the Olympic Games in 2012. This will cost about £215 million!

The main hall is called the *Turbine Hall* and has large works of art that change every few months.



This massive spider is one of the works of art at the Tate Modern. This was built by the artist Louise Bourgeois who is 95 years old!

# The River Thames

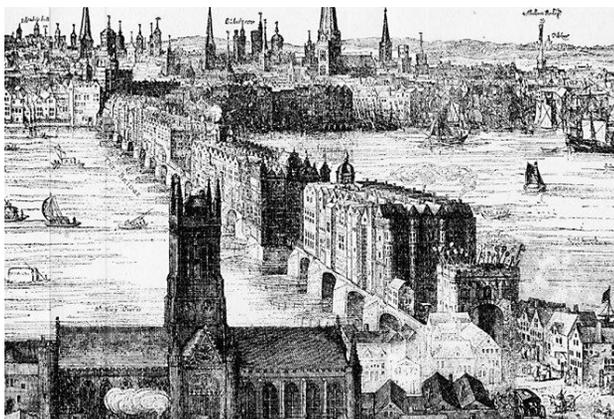


The River Thames is 215 miles long and as well as flowing through London it also runs through other towns and cities like Oxford, Reading and Windsor.

## Did you know?

In 1683 the River Thames was completely frozen for 2 months.

To stop the river flooding, the Thames Barrier was built in 1982. It cost £535 million!



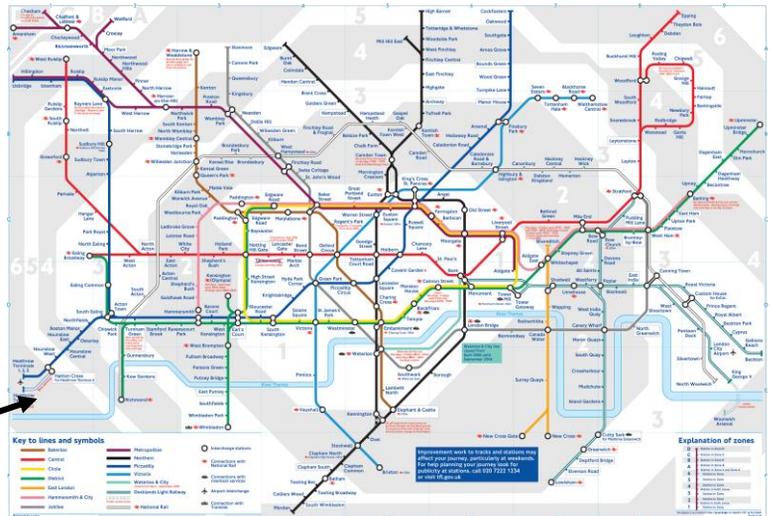
London Bridge was one of the first bridges across the river. This picture of the bridge in the year 1616 shows that people used to live on it!

# The London Underground



The London Underground, also known as the *Tube* is the world's oldest underground railway. It was also the first underground railway to use electric trains.

The earliest parts of the underground system were begun in 1863. Today there are 270 stations and 250 miles of track! The *Tube* map is one of the most famous maps in the world. There are 11 lines, all shown in different colour on the map.



The first line ran between Paddington station and Farringdon street and opened on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1863. The second line was the Hammersmith and City railway which opened the year after.

## Did you know?

About 3 million people go on the London Underground every day!

Most tourists buy tickets from stations but people who use the trains every day usually pay using an *Oyster Card*.

