

# Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night is celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> November. It is also known as Guy Fawkes Night or Fireworks Night. It remembers how a man called Guy Fawkes tried to blow up some important buildings in London. He did it because he wanted to change the way the country was being run.

## The 'Guy'

The plot didn't work and Guy Fawkes was caught. Even though some people agreed with Guy Fawkes, there were also lots of people who didn't. Some people celebrated by lighting bonfires all over London. Soon, the whole country was joining in.

A hundred years or so later, people started making models of Guy Fawkes using things like straw and old clothes. The 'Guy' was then thrown on top of the bonfire. Eventually, it became known as Guy Fawkes Night.



## Today

Today, Guy Fawkes Night is still celebrated with bonfires – but not always with a 'Guy'. A lot of people now just call it Bonfire Night.

Bonfire Night can be celebrated in people's back gardens or at organised events for families. Sometimes you can buy food there, like hot dogs and jacket potatoes.

## Other Bonfire Nights

In parts of Northern Ireland, Bonfire Night is also celebrated on another day for something entirely different. Eleventh Night celebrations happen on 11<sup>th</sup> July and are nothing to do with Guy Fawkes.



There is usually a fireworks display, too. Here are some of the fireworks you might see.

### Rocket

It flies high and explodes with a big bang

### Roman Candle

It shoots out stars with lots of noise and colour.

### Fountain

It has lots of sparks that last a long time. It is not as loud as other fireworks.

### Catherine Wheel

It spins and makes whizzy noises.

### Mine

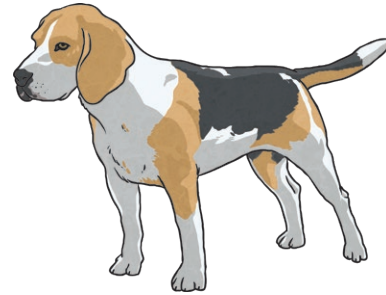
It fires coloured stars into the sky with a loud bang.

### Sparkler

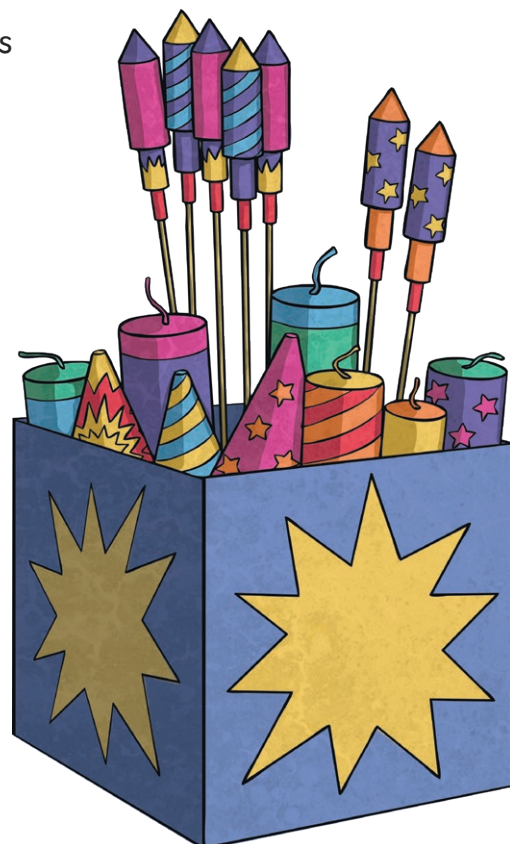
You hold a sparkler on a stick. It gives off lots of little sparks

### Be Safe with Sparklers!

- **Don't** put them in your pocket.
- Never pick one up from the floor.
- Make sure you are with an adult.
- **Don't** wave more than one at a time.
- Wear gloves.
- Hold them at arm's length.
- Put them in water after they go out (they can still burn you).



Pets can get frightened by fireworks. Keep them indoors and close all the curtains.



## Guy Fawkes' Rhyme

This rhyme reminds people of the day Guy Fawkes wanted to blow up the important buildings in London.

**Remember, remember!**

**The fifth of November,**

**Gunpowder treason and plot;**

**I know of no reason**

**Why gunpowder treason**

**Should ever be forgot!**



# Questions

1. Who tried to blow up some important buildings? Tick **one**.

- the King
- Guy Fawkes
- fireworks
- bonfires

2. Why did he want to blow them up?

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3. **A lot of people now just call it Bonfire Night.**

Explain how the name has changed over time.

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4. In what country do they have Eleventh Night celebrations?

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5. Draw a line to match the fireworks with their descriptions.

rocket

mine

Catherine wheel

It spins and makes whizzy noises.

It flies high and explodes with a big bang.

It fires coloured stars into the sky with a loud bang.

6. Which of these should you do when using sparklers? Tick **two**.

- Pick one up from the floor.
- Wear gloves.
- Hold them at arm's length.
- Put them in your pocket.

7. Number these to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

	Guy Fawkes was caught.
	Pets can get frightened by fireworks.
<b>1</b>	Bonfire Night is celebrated on 5 <sup>th</sup> November.
	I know of no reason why gunpowder treason should ever be forgot!
	Bonfire Night can be celebrated in people's back gardens.

# Answers

1. Who tried to blow up some important buildings? Tick **one**.

- the King
- Guy Fawkes**
- fireworks
- bonfires

2. Why did he want to blow them up?

**He wanted to blow them up so he could change the way the country was being run. In what country do they have Eleventh Night celebrations?**

3. **A lot of people now just call it Bonfire Night.**

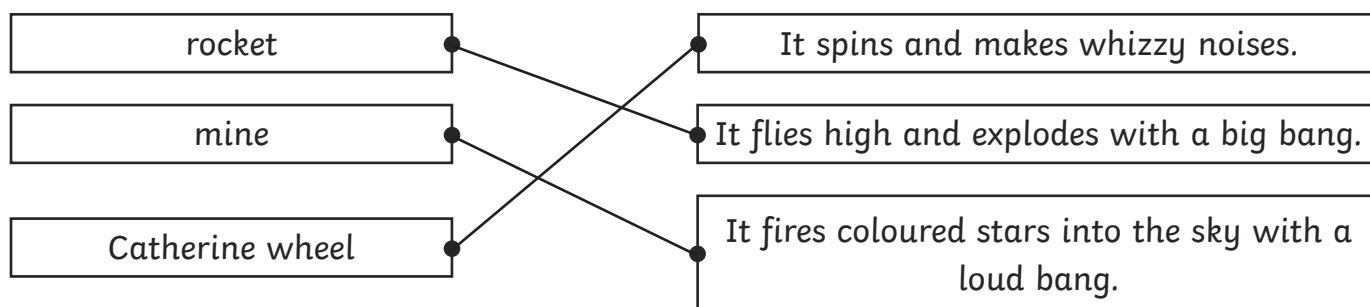
Explain how the name has changed over time.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: People started calling it Guy Fawkes Night when a model Guy Fawkes was put on the bonfire but today some people just call it Bonfire Night or Fireworks Night.**

4. In what country do they have Eleventh Night celebrations?

**They have Eleventh Night celebrations in Northern Ireland.**

5. Draw a line to match the fireworks with their descriptions.



6. Which of these should you do when using sparklers? Tick **two**.

- Pick one up from the floor.
- Wear gloves.**
- Hold them at arm's length.**
- Put them in your pocket.

7. Number these to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

<b>2</b>	Guy Fawkes was caught.
<b>4</b>	Pets can get frightened by fireworks.
<b>1</b>	Bonfire Night is celebrated on 5 <sup>th</sup> November.
<b>5</b>	I know of no reason why gunpowder treason should ever be forgot!
<b>3</b>	Bonfire Night can be celebrated in people's back gardens.

# Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night is celebrated every year on 5<sup>th</sup> November. It is also known as Guy Fawkes Night or Fireworks Night. It remembers how a man called Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament. He did it because he wanted to change the way the country was being run.

## Other Bonfire Nights

In some parts of Northern Ireland, Bonfire Night is also the name for the Eleventh Night celebrations that happen on 11<sup>th</sup> July. They are nothing to do with Guy Fawkes.

The plot failed and Guy Fawkes was caught. Even though some people agreed with Guy Fawkes, there were also lots of people who didn't. People celebrated the Gunpowder Plot's failure. At first, bonfires were lit all over London. Soon, the whole country was joining in. It became known as Gunpowder Treason Day.

A hundred years or so later, people started making models of Guy Fawkes using things like straw and old clothes. The 'Guy' was then thrown on top of the bonfire. Eventually, it became known as Guy Fawkes Night.

Today, Guy Fawkes Night is still celebrated with bonfires – but not always with a 'Guy' thrown on top. A lot of people now just call it Bonfire Night.

Bonfire Night can be celebrated in people's back gardens or at organised events. These are often fun, family events. Food is served, such as toffee apples, hot dogs or jacket potatoes.



There is usually a fireworks display, too. Here are some of the fireworks you might see.

## Rocket

The rocket flies really high then explodes with a big bang.

## Roman Candle

Roman candles are lots of little balls that shoot out stars. They can make all sorts of colours and noises.

## Fountain

Fountains shoot out a shower of sparks. They are not as loud as some other fireworks and can last a long time.

## Catherine Wheel

This spinning firework often makes crackly, whizzy noises as it whirls around and around.

## Mine

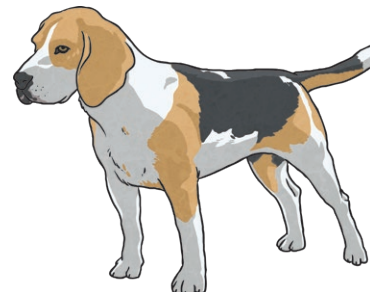
The mine fires coloured stars into the sky with a loud bang.

## Sparkler

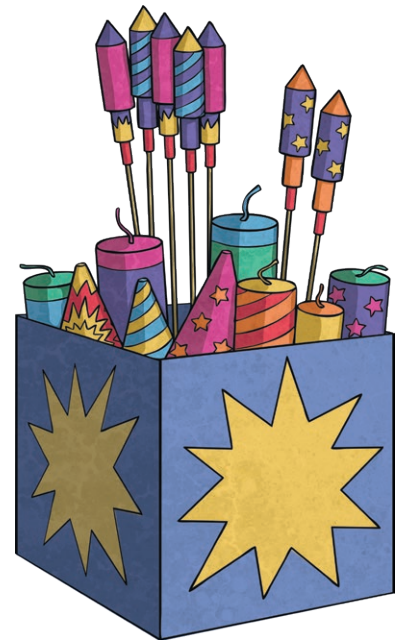
Sparklers are fireworks that you can hold on a stick. They give off lots of little sparks.

## Be Safe with Sparklers!

- **Don't** put them in your pocket.
- Never pick one up from the floor.
- Make sure you are with an adult.
- **Don't** wave more than one at a time.
- Wear gloves.
- Hold them at arm's length.
- Put them in water after they go out (they can still burn you).



Pets can get frightened by fireworks. It's a good idea to keep them indoors and to close all the curtains.



## Guy Fawkes' Rhyme

This rhyme has been around for a long time. It reminds people of the day Guy Fawkes planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

**Remember, remember!**

**The fifth of November,**

**Gunpowder treason and plot;**

**I know of no reason**

**Why gunpowder treason**

**Should ever be forgot!**



# Questions

1. Tick **two** other names for Bonfire Night.

- Guy Fawkes Night
- Parliament Night
- Fire Night
- Fireworks Night

2. What did Guy Fawkes try to blow up?

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3. Explain what a 'Guy' is and what you do with it.

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4. What date is the Eleventh Night celebrations held on? Tick **one**.

- 5<sup>th</sup> November
- 25<sup>th</sup> December
- 11<sup>th</sup> July
- 23<sup>rd</sup> January

5. What should you do with pets when there are fireworks?

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6. Number these to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

	They give off lots of little sparks.
<b>1</b>	He did it because he wanted to change the way the country was being run.
	People celebrated the Gunpowder Plot's failure.
	This rhyme has been around for a long time.
	These are often fun, family events.

7. Link together the correct **Be Safe with Sparklers** instruction.

Don't put ●

● them at arm's length.

Hold ●

● you are with an adult.

Make sure ●

● them in your pocket.

8. **Remember, remember!**  
**The fifth of November,**

Write two reasons why you think the poet used these words to start the rhyme.

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# Answers

1. Tick **two** other names for Bonfire Night.

- Guy Fawkes Night**
- Parliament Night
- Fire Night
- Fireworks Night**

2. What did Guy Fawkes try to blow up?

**Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament.**

3. Explain what a 'Guy' is and what you do with it.

**A 'Guy' is a model of Guy Fawkes made out of things like straw and old clothes. You put it on top of a bonfire on Bonfire Night.**

4. What date is the Eleventh Night celebrations held on? Tick **one**.

- 5<sup>th</sup> November
- 25<sup>th</sup> December
- 11<sup>th</sup> July**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> January

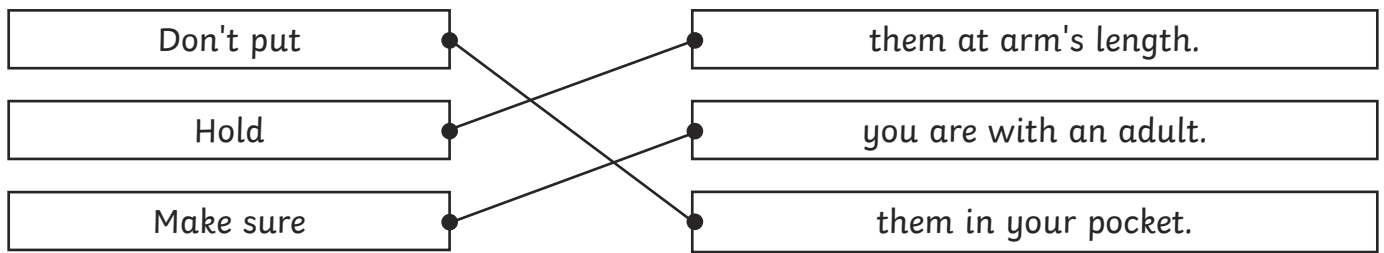
5. What should you do with pets when there are fireworks?

**You should keep them indoors and close all the curtains.**

6. Number these to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

<b>4</b>	They give off lots of little sparks.
<b>1</b>	He did it because he wanted to change the way the country was being run.
<b>2</b>	People celebrated the Gunpowder Plot's failure.
<b>5</b>	This rhyme has been around for a long time.
<b>3</b>	These are often fun, family events.

7. Link together the correct **Be Safe with Sparklers** instruction.



8. **Remember, remember!**  
**The fifth of November,**

Write two reasons why you think the poet used these words to start the rhyme.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: The poet used 'Remember, remember' and 'The fifth of November' to remind people when Bonfire Night is. Also, 'remember' rhymes with 'November'.**

# Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night is an event celebrated every year on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Also known as Guy Fawkes Night or Fireworks Night, it remembers how, in 1605, a man called Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Along with other members of the Gunpowder Plot, he placed explosives beneath the House of Lords in London as he didn't like the way King James I was running the country.

## Other Bonfire Nights

Bonfire Night is also another name for the Eleventh Night celebrations in parts of Northern Ireland, which happen on 11<sup>th</sup> July and are nothing to do with Guy Fawkes.

The plot failed and Guy Fawkes was caught. Even though some people agreed with Guy Fawkes, there were also lots of people who didn't. People were encouraged to celebrate the Gunpowder Plot's failure. To begin with, bonfires were lit all over London and within ten years, the whole country was joining in. It became known as Gunpowder Treason Day.

Towards the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, models of Guy Fawkes were thrown on to the bonfires and eventually it became known as Guy Fawkes Night.

Today, Guy Fawkes Night is still celebrated with bonfires – but not always with a 'Guy' thrown on top. A lot of people now just call it Bonfire Night.



Bonfire Night can be celebrated in people's back gardens or at organised events. These are often fun, family events where people can stand and watch. Food is usually served, such as toffee apples, hot dogs or jacket potatoes and there is nearly always a fireworks display.



Here are some of the types of fireworks you might see.

### Rocket

The rocket flies high into the sky before exploding with a tremendous bang.

### Roman Candle

Roman candles are lots of little balls that shoot out stars in a variety of colours and noises.

### Fountain

Fountains release a shower of sparks. They are not as loud as some other fireworks and can last a long time.

### Catherine Wheel

This spinning firework often makes crackly, whizzy noises as it whirls around and around.

### Mine

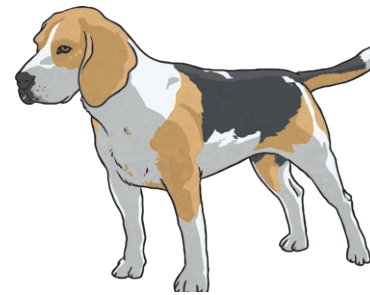
The mine fires coloured stars into the sky with a loud bang.

### Sparkler

Sparklers are small, handheld fireworks on a stick that give off lots of little sparks.

### Be Safe with Sparklers!

- **Don't** put them in your pocket.
- Never pick one up from the floor.
- Make sure you are with an adult.
- **Don't** wave more than one at a time.
- Wear gloves.
- Hold them at arm's length.
- Put them in water after they go out (they can still burn you).



Pets can get frightened by fireworks. It's a good idea to keep them indoors, make sure they're safe and to close all the curtains.



## Guy Fawkes' Rhyme

This popular rhyme is from a longer poem and has been around for a very long time. It reminds people of the day Guy Fawkes planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament. (Treason is when someone betrays their country.)

**Remember, remember!**

**The fifth of November,**

**Gunpowder treason and plot;**

**I know of no reason**

**Why gunpowder treason**

**Should ever be forgot!**



# Questions

1. What happened in 1605?

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2. Why do you think people were **encouraged to celebrate the Gunpowder Plot's failure**?

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3. What happens on 11<sup>th</sup> July?

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4. According to the text, what **two** things might you get to eat at a Bonfire Night celebration?

- chips
- chocolate apples
- hot dogs
- jacket potatoes

5. Why is it a good idea to keep pets indoors during a fireworks display?

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6. Join the boxes to link the clues to the right firework.

It is quieter than other fireworks. ●

● Catherine Wheel

It turns in a circle. ●

● rocket

It is another word for 'missile'. ●

● fountain

7. Find **Be Safe with Sparklers**. Choose two of the bullet points and explain why they are important instructions to follow.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Read the **Guy Fawkes Rhyme**. Write two reasons why you think the poet has chosen some of the words in the rhyme.

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# Answers

1. What happened in 1605?

**In 1605, a man called Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament.**

2. Why do you think people were encouraged to celebrate the Gunpowder Plot's failure?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: What Guy Fawkes did was treason and the King wouldn't have been very happy. The King would have wanted people to be on his side and expect them to celebrate the Gunpowder Plot's failure. By lighting bonfires, this showed that you supported the King and wouldn't get into trouble.**

3. What happens on 11<sup>th</sup> July?

**Eleventh Night celebrations take place on 11<sup>th</sup> July in parts of Northern Ireland.**

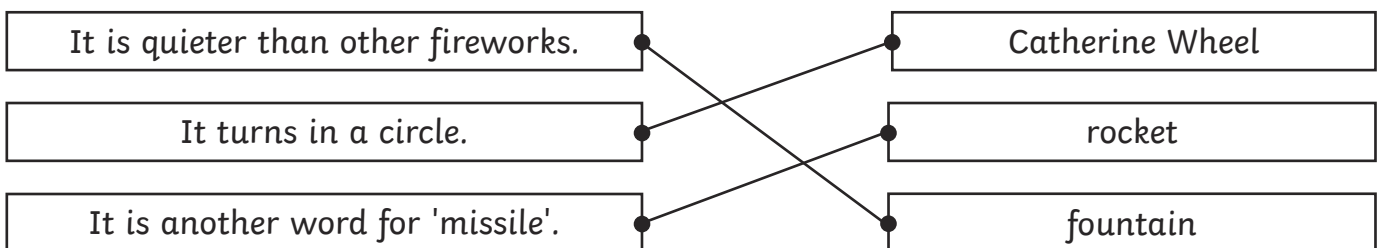
4. According to the text, what **two** things might you get to eat at a Bonfire Night celebration?

- chips
- chocolate apples
- hot dogs
- jacket potatoes

5. Why is it a good idea to keep pets indoors during a fireworks display?

**It is a good idea to keep pets indoors because they can get frightened by fireworks.**

6. Join the boxes to link the clues to the right firework.



7. Find **Be Safe with Sparklers**. Choose two of the bullet points and explain why they are important instructions to follow.

**Pupils' own responses, such as:**

**1 Don't put them in your pocket because they could still be hot and burn your clothes.**

**2 Never pick one up from the floor because it might not have gone out yet and could burn your hands.**

8. Read the **Guy Fawkes Rhyme**. Write two reasons why you think the poet has chosen some of the words in the rhyme

**Pupils' own responses, such as: The poet used 'Remember, remember' and 'The fifth of November' to remind people when Bonfire Night is. Also, 'remember' rhymes with 'November'.**