KS2 THAMES TIME TRAVELLERS

Years 3–6 | Ages 7–11 | Investigate London's changing history

Name: ..... **Class:** .....

1. LONDON BEGAN BY THE RIVER



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The tour describes how Roman Londinium developed beside the Thames, where a crossing and river trade were possible. The river continued to connect people, goods and important buildings.

Explain TWO reasons why a settlement might grow beside a river.

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2. POWER AT THE TOWER



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The Tower of London was built after the Norman Conquest. It later served as a royal residence and prison. The tour describes Anne Boleyn travelling to the Tower for her coronation preparations in 1533 and returning there before her execution in 1536.

What do these two visits suggest about the power of Tudor monarchs?

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3. FIRE AND REBUILDING

The Great Fire of 1666 destroyed old St Paul's Cathedral. The tour describes stone being transported by river to help rebuild the city.

Identify one effect of the fire and one way the Thames helped London recover.

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4. A RIVER THAT NEEDED CLEANING

KS2

By 1858, waste in the Thames had caused terrible smells and health problems. The event became known as the Great Stink, helping prompt changes to London's sewer system.

Write a cause → event → consequence chain for the Great Stink.

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5. HISTORY OR LEGEND

The tour shares the story that ravens must remain at the Tower or the kingdom will fall. This is a legend, not a prediction we can test.

How could you check whether another story from the tour is supported by historical evidence?

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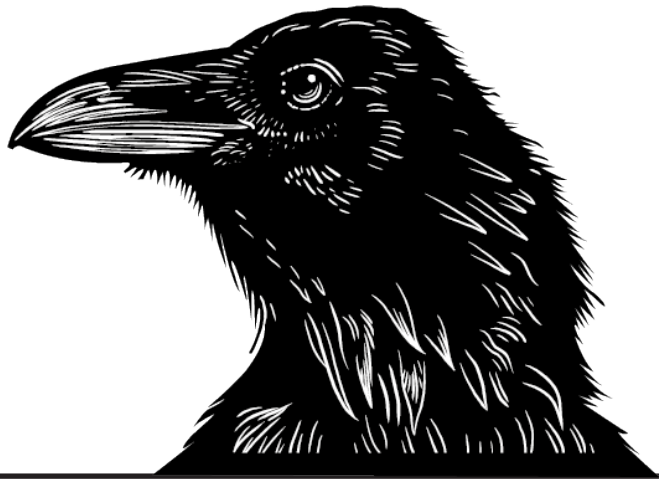
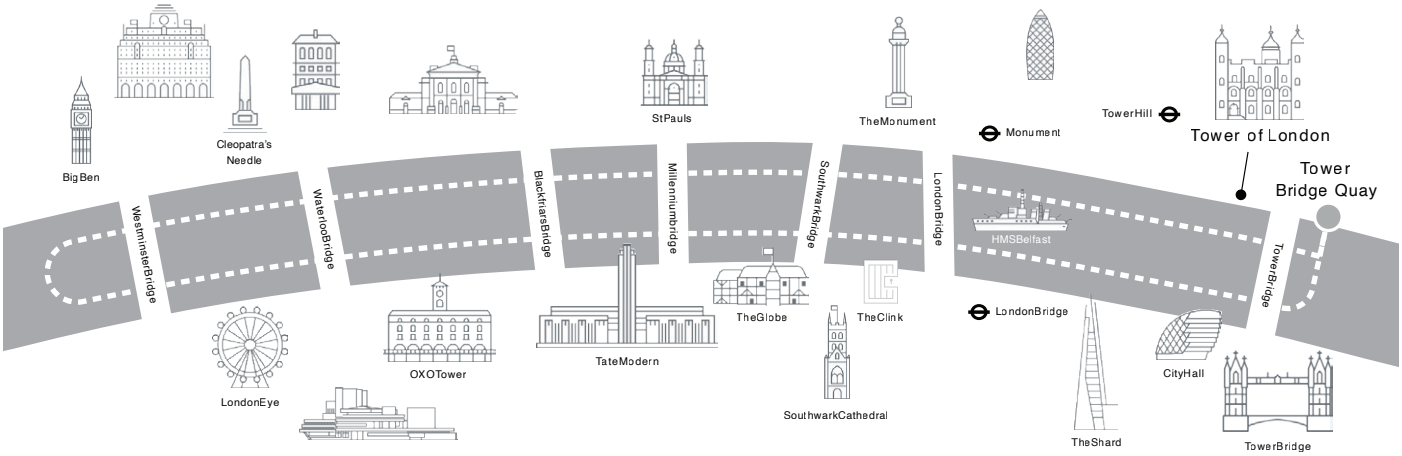


SPOT THE FAMOUS SITES



AFTER YOUR VISIT

Choose one stop from the tour and make a three-date mini-timeline explaining how it changed.

Teacher note: KS2 history: Roman Britain, chronological understanding, an aspect/theme beyond 1066, change and cause, evidence; geography: settlement, rivers and human impact. Topic choice depends on school scheme of work.

Stories and locations adapted from the Tower of London River Tour live script. Historical claims and legends should be explored critically; this sheet is not a transcript.