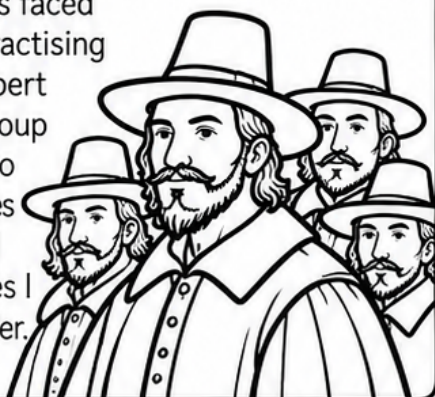


The Gunpowder Plot

A plan to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605.

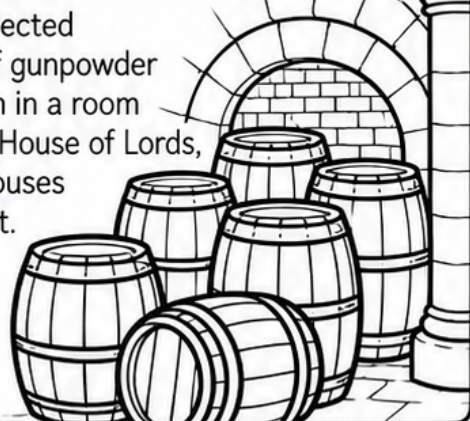
1. The plan

In 1605, Catholics faced restrictions on practising their religion. Robert Catesby and a group of men planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament and replace King James I with a Catholic ruler.



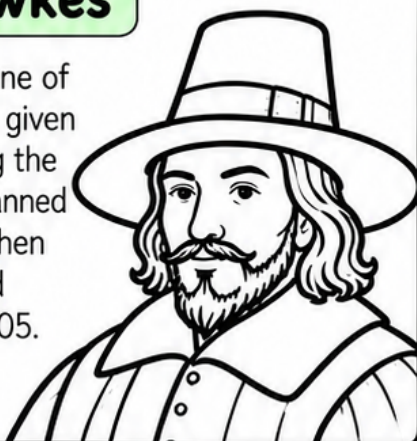
2. The gunpowder

The men collected 36 barrels of gunpowder and hid them in a room beneath the House of Lords, under the Houses of Parliament.



3. Guy Fawkes

Guy Fawkes was one of the group. He was given the job of guarding the gunpowder and planned to light the fuse when Parliament opened on 5 November 1605.



4. The discovery

A secret letter warned Lord Monteagle, a Catholic nobleman, to stay away from Parliament. He showed the letter to the king's advisers. On the night of 4 November 1605, guards searched the building and found Guy Fawkes in the room beneath the House of Lords with the gunpowder.



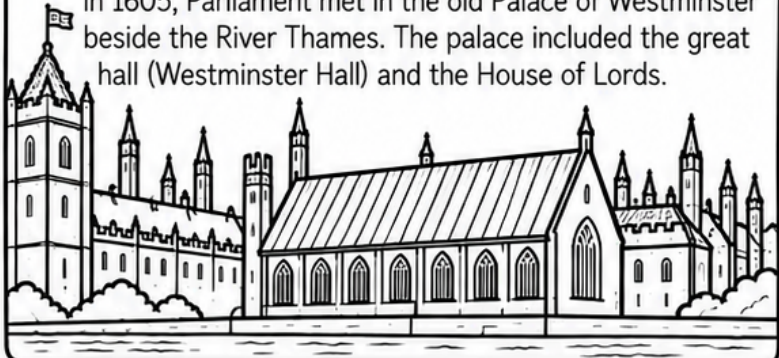
5. The outcome

Guy Fawkes was arrested and the other plotters were caught or killed. Eight of the surviving men were later tried for treason and executed in January 1606.



The Old Palace of Westminster in 1605

In 1605, Parliament met in the old Palace of Westminster beside the River Thames. The palace included the great hall (Westminster Hall) and the House of Lords.



Did you know?

- The plotters planned to blow up Parliament on 5 November 1605.
- Guy Fawkes was discovered on the night of 4 November 1605.
- 36 barrels of gunpowder were hidden beneath the House of Lords.
- Every 5 November, people remember the failed plot with bonfires and fireworks on Bonfire Night.

