

Chicago Fire

Teacher Name: _____ ***Student Name:*** _____

Date: ____ / ____ /20____ Per. ____

Use the word bank to fill in the blanks below:

Architects

elevator

property

cow

Michigan

wooden buildings



When Chicago burned to the ground, the blame was put on Mrs. O'Leary's _____, which was said to have kicked over a lantern that started the fire. One of the main results of the city burning down was that the city was rebuilt with steel skyscrapers, replacing the city mostly made of _____.
_____.

Located on Lake _____, Chicago began as a trading post in the 1600s. With the opening of the West, it became a center of the world's grain market and meat-packing industry. In 1871, the city was almost totally destroyed by raging fires in a disaster that has become legendary: some 18,000 buildings went up in smoke, hundreds of people were killed, close to 100,000 were left without homes, and nearly \$200 million worth of was destroyed.

Rebuilding began almost immediately. _____ and planners, seeing an opportunity to try out new ideas and construction techniques, rushed to the site. The invention of a safe high-speed electric _____ by Elisha G. Otis and the availability of steel for building a sturdy framework made the skyscraper possible. Within a very few years, Chicago was transformed into a modern city of stone and steel.

Questions ~

1. Why did Chicago burn so readily?
2. What transportation system helped Chicago become a center for commerce?
3. Which states provided the crops and cattle for Chicago as a trade center?
4. Who was Otis?