

Year 6 – Spring 1 and 2 Knowledge Organiser

History — WW2



Heathfield Schools' Partnership

The topic will allow the children to understand the major events of World War 2, whilst having an understanding of what life would be like for a children during the war years. Children will be able to empathise, select and discuss primary and secondary sources and understand how the WW1 and WW2 had far reaching consequenc-

What you should already know

- Features of **rural** and **urban** areas in the United Kingdom.
- Some key vocabulary relating to WWII The key leaders of Britain (Neville Chamberlain and Winston Churchill) and the **Nazi** Party (Adolf Hitler).
- Characteristics of London.
- The location of Germany in the continent of Europe.
- Causes and consequences of WWII in Britain (evacuation, rationing, women at work, etc.)
- The location of the United States of America, Russia and some European countries, including Germany and France

What caused WW2?

- After the loss of WWI in 1918, Germany's economy had suffered. In 1934, the people voted for Hitler, the leader of the Nazi Party to lead them after he had offered them hope. Even though he spoke of peace, **Hitler** and the **Nazi** Party **invaded** Austria and Czechoslovakia.
- Two days after the **invasion** of Poland on 1st September, Britain declared war on **Nazi** Germany.

Leader	Country	Continent	Power
Chamberlain (Neville)	United Kingdom	Europe	Allies
Churchill (Winston)	United Kingdom	Europe	Allies
Hitler (Adolf)	Germany	Europe	Axis
Mussolini (Benito)	Italy	Europe	Axis
Roosevelt (Franklin)	United States of America	North America	Allies
Stalin (Joseph)	Russia (then known as the USSR or Soviet Union along with other countries)	Europe / Asia	Axis / Allies

Key knowledge

Evacuation: many children, who lived in urban areas, were moved temporarily from their homes to places that were considered safe, usually rural areas, like Cumbria, Cornwall and Yorkshire. The British evacuation began on September, even before Britain had declared war on Germany. It was called Operation Pied Piper.

Rationing: As part of their campaign, Nazi Germans tried to cut off food and other goods coming to Britain by tacking many of the ships that brought food to Britain. This meant that there was less food for the people—whatever food was grown, produced or managed to enter Britain was rationed—people used their ration books at this time.

Jobs: Many men fought in the at and so women were tasked to carry out much of the work. However, some jobs were protected for men, who held these jobs, and were not called up to join the army, like doctors and miners.

Battle of Britain: The **Blitz** were military campaigns of WW2, in which the RAF defended the UK against large scale attached from the Luftwaffe. Hitler sent the Luftwaffe to attack British cities, ports and airfields. During the Blitz bombing of London, which started on September 7th, the city was bombarded especially at night. Hitler wanted to scare the British people of the capital and other large industrial cities. Air raid wardens made sure people had blackout curtains, and went to the air raid shelters.

Allies: The major allied powers were Britain, France, the United States (1941) and Russia (1942)

The Axis: The major axis powers were Nazi Germany, Italy and Japan. These countries invaded many countries including Austria, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Poland, (which brought Britain into the war on 3rd September)

Russia: At first they were allies of the Germans, but when Hitler tried to invade Russia in 1942, they changed sides. Hitler's forces were defeated heavily as they did not plan for the cold.

Commonwealth: people from all over the world, living in countries that had belonged to Britain during the Empire. Soldiers, airman and sailors from places like India, Pakistan, Burma, South Africa, Nepal. The British Indian army was the largest volunteer force with 2.5 million men,




D-Day: 1944 battles on the beaches of France, this was the turning point for the allies in their fight.

Monarchs of the time: From 1910 George V was king and he reigned until 1936. In January 1936, his eldest son, Edward VIII, who took the name Edward VIII ascended to the throne. He became king on January 20th, but then abdicated (renounced the throne) on December 10th, so he could marry Wallis Simpson. His younger brother, Bertie, became the new king: named George VI and was king until 1952 when his daughter, Queen Elizabeth became the new queen.

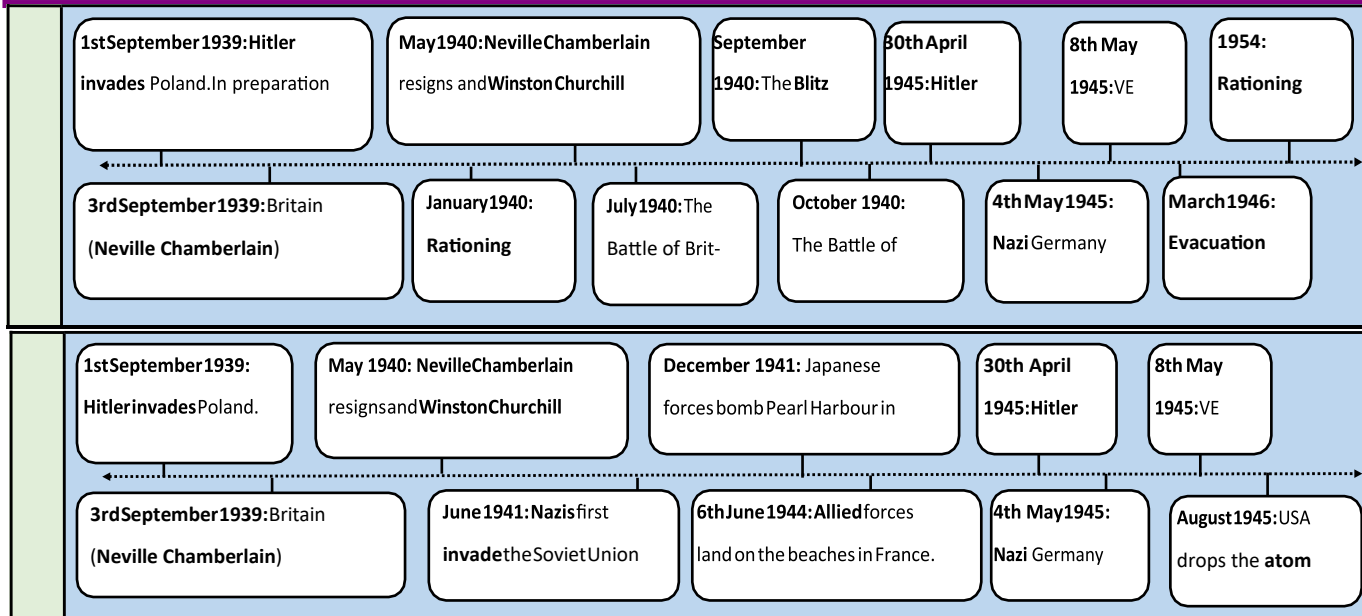


Vocabulary

ally	A country's ally is another country that has an agreement to support it, especially in war
Allies	The Allies were the armed forces that fought against Germany and Japan in the Second World War. They included the United Kingdom, the United States of America and France.
atom bomb	an extremely destructive type of nuclear bomb
Axis	The Axis were the armed forces that fought against the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The major Axis powers were Germany, Italy and Japan.
climate	the general weather conditions that are typical of a place.
German-occupied	countries that were occupied by Nazi Germany. Austria, Poland and France were all German-occupied during WWII.
invasion	to try and take over a place by force
liberate	To liberate a place or the people in it means to free them from the political or military control of another country, area, or group of people
military	relating to or belonging to the army
Nazi	a member of the far-right political party in Germany
occupied	under the control of an occupying military force

air raid	an attack by military aircraft in which bombs are dropped
Blitz	The heavy bombing of British cities by German aircraft in 1940 and 1941 is referred to as the Blitz
campaign	a planned set of activities that people carry out over a period of time
Chamberlain (Neville)	 Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1937 to 1940
Churchill (Winston)	 Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945
defend	take action in order to protect something
economy	A country's economy is the wealth that it gets from business and industry
evacuate	To evacuate someone means to send them to a place of safety
Hitler (Adolf)	 Leader of the Nazi Party from 1934 to 1945
industrial	An industrial city or country is one in which industry is important
industry	the work and processes involved in collecting raw materials, and making them into products in factories
invasion	to try and take over a place by force
Luftwaffe	the German Air Force
military	relating to or belonging to the army
Nazi	a member of the far-right political party in Germany
Prime Minister	The leader of the government in some countries
rationing	the system of limiting the amount of food, water, petrol, or other substances when there is not enough of them
rural	places that are far away from large towns or cities
surrenders	stop fighting or resisting someone
urban	belonging to, or relating to, a town or city
warden	a person who is responsible for a particular place or thing

WW2 Timeline/ Key Events



Map of countries taking part in the war

