

Alverton School History Knowledge Organiser Years 5 and 6 - WW2

What we already know:

Germany, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and France were all heavily involved in WW1. They are all countries in Europe. Countries have, for centuries, invaded and made war with other countries. Many countries in Europe had treaties with other countries to try and prevent war.

Key Vocabulary

Allies	Countries (inc. Britain, France, the Soviet Union and USA) who fought the Axis powers.
Axis Powers	Germany, Italy, Japan and others.
Blackout	Wartime ban on lights at night to reduce risk of enemy bombing.
Blitz	The period of intense German air-raids on Britain.
Concentration camps	Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held by the Nazis.
Evacuation	Moving people from dangerous areas to safer ones in the countryside.
Fascism	A political system which allows no opposition.
Genocide	Deliberate action to destroy a group of people.
Holocaust	Murder of 6 million Jews.
Invasion	When a country uses force to take over another country.
Propaganda	Information, often biased, to promote a political cause.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol, etc to make it last.
Treaty	An agreement between two or more countries to defend each others rights.

Super Six

Most people believe that WW2 happened because of WW1. At the end of WW1, Germany was treated severely by the Treaty of Versailles. They had to give up land and pay 33 billion pounds compensation. Germany became very poor and the people were unhappy. They voted for Adolf Hitler's Nazi party who promised to make Germany great again. However, they brought hatred and war.

In 1939, 2 days after Britain declared war on Germany and the day that Hitler invaded Poland thousands of children were evacuated from cities which were likely to be bombed and sent to live with families in safer areas in the country.

Hitler's Nazi party believed they were the master race and hated people who were different. They particularly targeted Jews and were responsible for the murder of at least 6 million people in the concentration camps. This is known as the Holocaust.

Rationing was introduced in Britain in January 1940. Certain foods such as butter, bacon, and sugar, were restricted - people could only buy a limited amount to ensure there was enough to go around. After the outbreak of war in September 1939, food became scarce.

Operation Dynamo, the evacuation from Dunkirk, involved the rescue of more than 338,000 British and French soldiers from the French port of Dunkirk between 26 May and 4 June 1940. The evacuation, sometimes referred to as the Miracle of Dunkirk, was a big boost for British morale.

The Battle of Britain was a battle in the skies over Southern England. Hitler wanted to destroy Britain's air defences in order to allow his invasion fleet to cross the Channel. The RAF stopped him. Following this he began to bomb British cities in the Blitz.

1933
Hitler comes to power

1940
May
Germany invades Poland

1940
July
Battle of Britain

1941
Women take on men's jobs

1942
Anne Frank starts a diary

June 1944
Allies invade France on D-Day

27th January
Allies liberate Auschwitz

8th May
1945
VE Day

1939
Germany invades Poland. Britain declares war.

1940
June
Dunkirk evacuation

1940 - 1941
The Blitz

1942
Japanese attack Pearl Harbour

1940 - 1945
French Resistance fight in secret

June - October 1945
Germany bombards England with Doodlebugs

August 1945
Americans drop atomic bombs on Japan

15th August 1945
VJ Day



UK's tallest mountains