



Key Questions

- How did the war impact people in Britain?
- What was Europe like throughout World War Two?
- How did people adapt to cope with the war?

Key People - Leaders

Adolf Hitler - Leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor of Germany, 1933 - 1945 (also referred to as the Führer meaning leader).

Neville Chamberlain - UK Prime Minister, 1937 - 1940 (attempted to satisfy Hitler's demands prior to the war).

Winston Churchill - UK Prime Minister, 1940 - 1945 (and again from 1951 - 1955).

Franklin D. Roosevelt - US President, 1933 - 1945 (declared war on Japan following the Pearl Harbour attacks).

Harry S. Truman - US President, 1945 - 1953 (responsible for the decision to drop Atomic bombs on Japan).

Joseph Stalin - General Secretary of the Communist Party and Leader of the USSR, 1929 - 1953 (see below).



Useful web links:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-world-war-two/zjnyscw>
- <https://school-learningzone.co.uk/key-stage-two/ks2-history/british-history/world-war-ii/world-war-ii.html>

World War Two – The Home Front Knowledge Organiser

Term 1

Key Knowledge

Prior knowledge

- The concept of war
- The concept of chronology and historical enquiry.

By the end of the unit, I will:

- Know about the events leading to the outbreak of war.
- Know some key dates and events.
- Be able to explain about the different shelters that people used.
- Understand what it was like to be an evacuee.
- Explain why rationing was introduced and how the system worked.
- Understand the importance of propaganda and know why it was used.
- Explain the geography of Europe in the 1930s and 1940s.

Date	Key events
September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland
September 3, 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
January, 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK.
May to June, 1940	Allied forces evacuated from Dunkirk. France surrenders to Germany.
September 1940 – May 1941	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain (The Battle of Britain and the Blitz begins) Germany, Italy and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact creating the axis alliance.
December 7, 1941	The Japanese attack the US navy at Pearl Harbour. The next day, the USA enters the war fighting with the allies.
June 6, 1944	D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans.
April 30, 1945	Adolf Hitler dies.
May 7, 1945	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day.
August 1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan by the US killing approximately 226,000 people.
September 2, 1945	Japan surrenders signalling the end of WW2.
July, 1954	Rationing ends in the UK.



Swastika (Nazi)

Key vocabulary

Term	Definition
Allies	Countries which fought with Britain during WW2.
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated (moved from potentially dangerous areas of the country to safer areas. They were usually placed with a host family).
Black out	System of ensuring that no light was visible after dark to make it harder for enemy aircraft to identify landmarks.
Rationing	The system which allowed the population to only have limited amounts of commodities e.g. food and clothing
Air raid shelter	A building or structure designed to keep people safe during bombing raids. Examples are Anderson Shelters, Morrison Shelters and large public shelters.
Axis	Countries which fought with Germany during WW2.
Nazi	Member of the fascist German political party which came to power in 1933. Hitler became leader of this party.
Blitz	A word (short for blitzkrieg or lightning war) referring to the sustained bombing of cities in Britain e.g. London, Coventry, Liverpool, Birmingham
Neutral	Some countries took no official side. They were described as "neutral". These included Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.
Luftwaffe	The German Air Force (responsible for the Blitz).
RAF	Royal Air Force
Incendiary	Explosive bombs used in the Blitz. They were highly destructive and designed to kindle fires in its target areas.
Propaganda	Biased or misleading information used by people e.g. governments to promote a particular point of view. The Nazis used anti-Jewish propaganda to encourage hatred towards the Jewish people in Germany and its occupied countries.
Spitfire	A type of British fighter plane identifiable by its wing shape and engine sound.

