



Y6 History Knowledge Organiser—World War II



Key Knowledge

Learn these key facts

When and Why

The war began in 1939 and was officially over on 8th May 1945

World War II began because Germany invaded Poland and would not withdraw.



Adolf Hitler
Leader of the Nazi Party



Neville Chamberlain
Prime Minister until 1940
Declared war on Germany



Winston Churchill
Prime Minister from 1940
Led Britain to Victory



King George VI
King of the UK
1936—1952

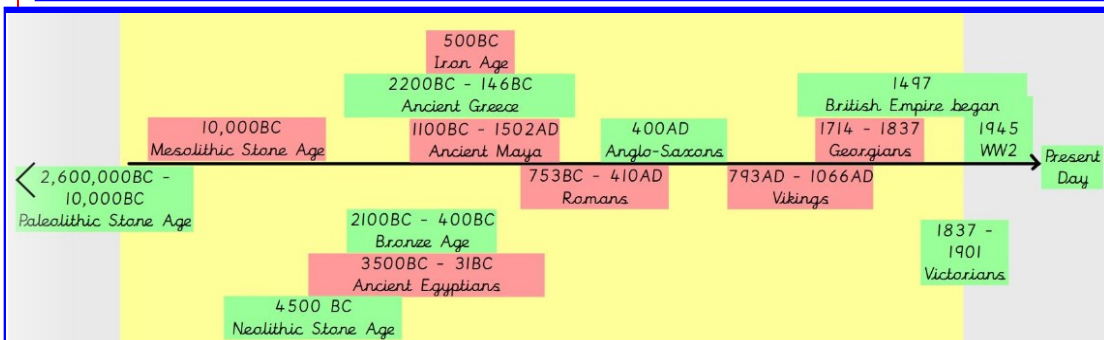
Key Vocabulary

Understand these key words

Word

Definition

Empathy	Sharing the feelings of others
Enquiry	Asking questions to get a better understanding
Cause	Why something happens
Effect	What happens
Axis	Countries we were at war with
Allies	Countries who fought alongside us
VE Day	Victory in Europe Day, a day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Nazi Germany's surrender
Holocaust	The killing of a very large number of people
Primary source	An original artefact such as a speech, diary, newspaper, helmet, photograph
Secondary source	An interpretation of primary sources such as a replica home, a documentary, a history book or a poetry analysis.
Rationing	The control of size and amounts of good, services and food and when these are distributed
Evacuation	Evacuation means leaving a place in an emergency. During WWII, many children were moved temporarily from towns/cities to places considered
Invasion	Where force is used to take control of another country.
The Blitz	Continuous bombing raids on cities



The Blitz

The Blitz was a period of relentless bombing. London was bombed for 56 days and 57 nights. The Germans wanted to damage spirit and disrupt major services. People used gas masks, shelters and black out to stay safe during bombing raids.



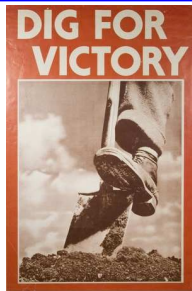
Evacuation

Children were evacuated out of targeted areas to protect them from bombing raids. Some reasons children benefited from evacuation included better food, clean air, access to nature, more exercise. Some children were neglected and treated badly.



Rationing

Made do and mend means to repair items rather than replace them to save waste. Dig For Victory (growing your own fruit and vegetables) helped save space on ships and provided food. Rationing ended in 1954.



Women at War

Whilst men were fighting women did jobs such as working in munitions, air force and land army. After the war women were pushed out of the workplace and married women were not allowed to work in most jobs. Women continued to work in jobs such as the Land Army.



Nancy Wake was a spy for the British based in France.

The Holocaust

The Holocaust was a period in WW2 when millions of Jews were murdered. Rights of the Jewish, Roma (travelling communities) and disabled were taken away and Killings were arranged by the Nazi Party. Millions of Jews were sent to work in concentration camps where they died. Anne Frank was a Jewish girl who died in a concentration camp. She kept a diary whilst in hiding before she and her family were captured.



1st Sept 1939 –
War began

7th May 1945 –
War ended

8th May 1945 –
VE Day