

Over Hall Primary School - History

Topic: WW2

Year: 6

Strand: History

What should I already know?

How to use a range of sources to find out about the past;
 How to construct informed responses about one aspect of life or a key event in the past through careful selection and organisation of relevant historical information;
 How to gather more detail from sources such as maps to build up a clearer picture of the past;

Vocabulary

Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
Nazi party	A German political party with racist and anti-Jewish ideas, led by Adolf Hitler
Atomic bomb	A very high-energy bomb made of radioactive material.
Annex	To take another country's land and make it part of your country.
Czechoslovakia	A European country. Now two countries: the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
propaganda	Information designed to promote a political idea or opinion.
active service	Taking part in a military operation as part of the armed forces.

Historical Skills and Fieldwork

A study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality.
 Pupils should continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study.

Evacuation

During World War II, over 3.5 million children, along with some of their teachers and helpers, mothers with very young children, pregnant women and people with disabilities, were evacuated from the cities to the countryside, where it was believed they would be safer from bombing. All evacuees had to take their gas mask, ration book and identity card. When they reached their destination, a billeting officer would arrange a host family for them. Evacuation happened in waves, beginning on 1st September 1939. Other waves occurred at the start of the Battle of Britain and at the start of the Blitz.

Rationing

Supply ships were targeted by German bombers and it was necessary to conserve as much food as possible. Rationing meant that each person was only allowed a fixed amount of foods. Ration books were issued, with coupons that showed people how much of each item they were allowed. Shopkeepers would remove or stamp the coupons when they were used. People were also encouraged to 'Dig for Victory' and grow as much of their own food as possible. Petrol, soap, clothing and timber were also in short supply. Clothing ration books were issued and people were encouraged to 'make do and mend'.

How did WW2 start?

The leader of Germany, Adolf Hitler, had plans to take over other countries. In March 1938, Germany invaded and annexed Austria, which made other countries worried. On 29th September 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders signed a treaty called the Munich Agreement. This allowed Hitler to annex the Sudetenland (an area of Czechoslovakia) if he agreed not to invade anywhere else. However, in August 1939, Hitler broke the agreement and invaded the rest of Czechoslovakia, followed by Poland on 1st September. Britain, France and Poland had made a pact to support each other, so Britain and France declared war on Germany.



Key Events		
1939	1st September	German troops invade Poland
	3rd September	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
1940	10th May	The Battle of France begins.
	26th May	Allied forces are evacuated from Dunkirk in France.
	10th July	The Battle of Britain begins.
	7th September	The Blitz begins.
1941	22nd June	Germany invades the USSR (Soviet Union).
	7th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US.
1943	16th and 17th May	The Dambusters bombing raid is carried out.
1944	6th June	The D-Day landings.
1945	7th May	Germany surrenders to the Allies.
	6th and 9th August	The US drops atomic bombs on two cities in Japan.

The Holocaust

The Holocaust is the term for the killing of over six million Jewish people before and during World War II, organised by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party. Even before the war, they wanted to blame the Jews for the problems in Germany and used propaganda to promote widespread public hatred of them. Jewish people were openly bullied, persecuted, abused and discriminated against. Many Jews were sent to concentration camps where they were forced to work like slaves. Many died through infection, starvation or exhaustion. Others were sent to death camps where they were killed in gas chambers. This form of mass killing is called genocide.

The role of women

Before the war, most women stayed at home and didn't go out to work. Those who did work were paid less than men and were generally restricted to 'women's jobs', such as nursing or working as a shop assistant. However, when men were called up for active service, women were needed to do jobs such as making weapons, driving buses and trains or working in engineering or shipbuilding. Some joined the armed forces themselves. After the war, many women lost their jobs. However, their experiences led them to campaign for equal working rights and pay so that they could carry on leading more independent lives.



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Question 1	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Who ruled Germany?		
Adolf Hitler		
Winston Churchill		

Question 3	Start of unit:	End of unit:
When did WW2 begin?		
1934		
1932		
1939		

Question 2	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Which of these countries was an ally of Britain?		
Japan		
France		
Germany		

Question 4	Start of unit:	End of unit:
How long did WW2 last?		
1 Year		
6 Years		
6 Months		

Question 5	Start of unit:	End of unit:
Can you write one fact about WW2.		