

The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Knowing More

Remembering More

Learning More

World War II



ARDLEIGH GREEN
JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 6
History

Key Dates

Second World War timeline

Before the Second World War

- 1934** **19th August** Adolf Hitler, the leader of the Nazi party, becomes the leader of Germany.
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- 1936** **March** German troops break the Treaty of Versailles when they occupy the Rhineland.
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- 1938** **12th March** Austria becomes part the German Empire, which is known as the Third Reich.

During the Second World War

- 1939** **1st September** The Second World War begins when Germany invades Poland.
September In the first three days of evacuation, 1.5 million children and vulnerable adults leave British cities.
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- 1940** **8th January** Rationing starts.
10th July–31st October The Battle of Britain takes place.
7th September The Blitz begins.
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- 1941** **10th May** The Blitz ends.
7th December Japanese planes bomb the American naval base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii, leading to the United States entering the war.
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- 1944** **6th June** Allied troops land in Normandy, France to free western Europe from German control (D Day).
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- 1945** **January** Allied forces begin to free prisoners of war from German concentration camps.
30th April Adolf Hitler commits suicide.
8th May Germany surrenders. The Second World War in Europe ends (Victory in Europe Day).
26th July Clement Attlee replaces Winston Churchill as Prime Minister of Great Britain.
15th August Japan surrenders (Victory over Japan Day). The Second World War ends.

After the Second World War

- 1945** **24th October** The United Nations is created to make sure a world war doesn't happen again.
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- 1954** **4th July** Rationing ends in Britain.

Key Facts

The second world war lasted from 1939 – 1945. On one side were the Axis Powers (Including Germany, Italy and Japan). On the other side were the Allied Powers (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA). After six years of fighting, the Allied Powers won. Children, as well as adults were affected by the war.

During the war, German planes dropped bombs on British cities in an attempt to destroy factories, dockyards and airfields but homes and schools were also hit. The Government decided to evacuate children from the cities to the countryside to be safer.

Key Vocabulary

Civilian: A person who was not in the police or armed forces.

Evacuee: A child or vulnerable adult who was sent away to the country to be kept in a safer place.

Invade: To enter or occupy a country by force.

Nazi: A follower of Adolf Hilter, leader of the Nazi party.

Propaganda: Biased news to influence opinion.

Test Yourself

- When did WWII begin?
- When did the war end?
- Where were the children evacuated to?
- Why were they evacuated?
- Which countries were part of the Allied Power?

What I would like to know...