

Year 6 World War 2 Knowledge Organiser

Key vocabulary

Evacuee	Children were moved away from their parents to safer areas such as Wales or the countryside.
Historical source	Historical source is an original source that contains important historical information.
Invasion	To take over by force.
Nazi	The political party that controlled Germany
Swastika	The symbol of the Nazi Party.
Occupied	Under the control of an occupying military force.
Prejudice	Bad thoughts against a person or race for something they believe in or have no control over.
Anderson shelter	A metal shelter placed in gardens to offer some protection against bombs dropped from above.
Anti-Semitism	Negative beliefs or actions against Jewish people.
Propaganda	Politically-fuelled adverts that make people believe something that is untrue.
Allies	Countries that worked together against the German army and Nazi party.
Axis	Countries that worked together against the Allies with Germany.
Neutral	not supporting or helping either side in a conflict, disagreement.

	Date	Key events
1	September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland
2	September 3, 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany (<i>start of WW2</i>)
3	January, 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK
4	May to June, 1940	Dunkirk evacuated and France surrenders to Germany Germany uses blitzkrieg to take over much of Western Europe
5	July, 1940	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain (<i>The Battle of Britain and the Blitz begins</i>) Germany, Italy and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact creating the axis alliance
6	December 7, 1941	The Japanese attack the US navy in Pearl Harbor. The next day, the USA enters the war fighting with the allies
7	June 6, 1944	D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans
8	April 30, 1945	Adolf Hitler commits suicide
9	May 7, 1945	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day
10	August 1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan by the US killing approximately 226,000 people
11	September 2, 1945	Japan surrenders signaling the end of WW2
12	July, 1954	Rationing ends in the UK

Leaders		
1	Adolf Hitler	Leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor of Germany, 1933 - 1945 (<i>also referred to as the Führer meaning leader</i>)
2	Winston Churchill	UK Prime Minister, 1940 - 1945 (and again from 1951 - 1955)
3	Neville Chamberlain	UK Prime Minister, 1937 - 1940 (<i>infamous for failed attempts to satisfy Hitler's demands prior to the war</i>)
4	Franklin D. Roosevelt	US President, 1933 - 1945 (<i>took the US into the war following the Pearl Harbor attacks</i>)
5	Harry S. Truman	US President, 1945 - 1953 (<i>responsible for the decision to drop Atomic bombs on Japan</i>)
6	Joseph Stalin	General Secretary of the Communist Party and Leader of the USSR, 1929 - 1953

Main Participating Countries					
ALLIED POWERS			AXIS POWERS		
Country	Date Joined	Flag	Country	Date Joined	Flag
FRANCE	3 rd Sep, 1939		GERMANY	1 st Sep, 1939	
UK	3 rd Sep, 1939		ITALY	11 th Jun, 1940	
SOVIET UNION	22 nd Jun, 1941		BULGARIA	1 st Mar, 1941	
USA	8 th Dec, 1941		JAPAN	7 th Dec, 1941	

Key questions:

Where does WW2 fit into our History?

Why do historical sources vary in reliability?

What were the causes of WW2?

Who were the axis, allies and neutral countries in WW2?

What was life in Brighton and Hove during WW2?

Evacuation: Why did so many children have to leave their homes?

Core texts:

