

National Curriculum History

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. They should note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms. They should regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance. They should construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information. They should understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources. In planning to ensure the progression described above through teaching the British, local and world history, teachers should combine overview and depth studies to help pupils understand both the long arc of development and the complexity of specific aspects of the content.

Artefacts



Map of the Nazi Occupation

Air raid shelter

St Paul's Cathedral

Gas mask

Evacuee's suitcase

Ration book

Cause and Effect

Why did Britain declare War on Germany?

Germany marched into Poland and Britain and France ordered Germany to remove its troops. As part of the Anglo-Polish pact, when Germany refused, the two nations declared war.

What precautions were taken to keep people safe during WW2?

Anderson and Morrison shelters were built in peoples' gardens and homes, alongside air raid warnings and barbed wire fencing on the coast. Pill boxes and gun emplacements were placed all around the country.

How did evacuation affect British children?

Due to the constant raids from Nazi airplanes, many children were forced to leave the cities and were sent to live in the countryside. They had to leave family and friends behind and live with complete strangers. It was a scary and sometimes lonely time.

Vocabulary

Prime Minister

The elected political leader of the country.

Axis

The countries that fought together against the Allied Powers.

Allies

The countries that fought together against the Axis Powers.

Evacuation

The movement of children from their homes in the city to the countryside.

Blitz

The bombing of major cities in the UK during the war.

Invasion

When troops from one country seize power from another.

Rationing

When food and materials were limited so people were given a small quantity of each.

Operation Dynamo

D Day evacuation code name.

Operation Sea Lion

Germany's code name for the invasion of the UK.

Battle of Britain

1940 air battle for control of British skies.

Key Stage 2 History

Title of Topic : World War II – The Home Front

Term: Summer 2026

AD 1933	AD 1938-39	AD 1939- 3 rd September	AD 1939- 3 rd September	AD 1940- 26 th May	AD 1940 10 th July	AD 1940- 7 th September	AD 1941- 1943	AD 1944 6 th June	AD 1945 7 th May
Hitler becomes leader of Germany. His government are known as the Nazis.	The Nazis, invade Austria, Czechoslovakia and then Poland.	Britain and France declare war on Germany.	First wave of evacuation of children from UK cities to the countryside starts. Further evacuations occur as the war progressed.	Allied troops are evacuated from Dunkirk in France as the Nazis take control of most of Europe. Winston Churchill makes famous speeches this year.	The Battle of Britain begins over Britain. Britain is attacked by the German air force	The Blitz begins.	Fighting continues throughout Europe.	The D Day landings take place off the coast of Normandy France. Allied troops land and begin invasion and fight back.	Germany surrenders to the Allies in Europe.

AD 1940 – 10th May- Winston Churchill becomes British Prime Minister

Cause and effect cont.

Why was D Day important?

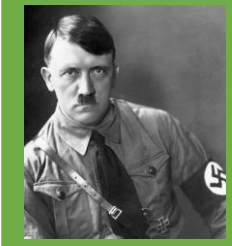
The D Day invasion was one of the largest military assaults in history and required extensive planning. It resulted in the Allies gaining key ground and defeating the Nazis within a year of its start.

What changes occurred to everyday life in Britain during WW2?

As a result of WW2, many shortages to goods and supplies occurred and Britain was forced to ration food and other essential items to its people. Households had special rationing books and were encouraged to produce their own food and to recycle clothes and other goods.

How did WW2 end?

As a result of Hitler's death and the strong fighting from the organised Allies, the Nazis surrendered in Europe on the 8th May 1945. This is known as VE Day.



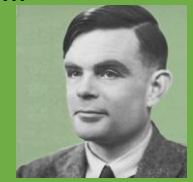
Adolph Hitler



Neville Chamberlin



Winston Churchill



Alan Turin

Key people:

Key Learning: How did World War II affect life in Britain?	
1	Why did Britain declare war? (chronology & cause and effect) Understand why war was declared including listening to Chamberlin's broadcast. Timeline activities detailing key events. Discuss causes and consequences of history events.
2	Where did WW2 begin? (chronology& geography) Which countries were involved? Locate and label on a European map, include seas and capital cities. Review vocabulary and distinguish between axis and allies.
3	What precautions were taken to keep people safe during WW2? (artefacts) Discover the precautions that were taken to ensure the safety of the British public and their effect on everyday lives of adults and children. Drama activities and gas mask drill exercise.
4	What precautions were taken to keep people safe during WW2? (cause and effect & artefacts) Discover further precautions taken during the Blitz: shelters and use of public underground. Discuss advantages and disadvantages of shelter types. Drama: experience of an air raid. Discuss emotions to assist diary writing.

Key Learning: How did World War II affect life in Britain?

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| 5 & 6 | <p>To understand events leading up to the Dunkirk evacuation May 27 – June 4 1940 (chronology & cause effect) (geography)</p> <p>Winston Churchill becomes prime minister and the Dunkirk evacuation moved about 380,000 British, French, and Belgian (Allied) soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk, France, across the English Channel to England. It began on May 26, 1940, and ended on June 4. Understand the need to evacuate Allied troops from France and the use of civilian ships. Read 'Little ships' story and undertake drama. Identify countries occupied by Nazi forces. Extended writing as evacuated soldier.</p> |
| 7 | <p>Understand the threat of German invasion and Britain's response- Battle of Britain – July 1940 – September 15th 1940 (cause and effect) & (geography)</p> <p>Compare leaders invasion & defence plans- Investigate difference between Spitfires & Messerschmitts plus probable reasons for defeat. Nazis lost too many planes, planes needed to refuel, British pilots brave defending homeland, although less of them, British pilots better calibre, Radar helped to inform British pilots- card sort activity- Imagine an alternative outcome and undertake a group discussion on what would have happened if Britain had been defeated.</p> |
| 8 | <p>What was evacuation and what life was like for evacuees during the Blitz? 7th September 1940 -11thMay 1941 (chronology & cause and effect)</p> <p>Place The Blitz on timeline. Understand the threat of staying in cities during The Blitz and its effect on families: bombing, casualties .PSHRE link, Local geographical and historical link: explore Clipston evacuee memories.</p> <p>Discuss emotions and thoughts of being evacuated from different perspectives, parents, children and hosts. Consider differences urban vs rural, danger v peace, family life v strangers. Link to English writing.</p> |
| 9 | <p>To understand the changes to everyday life in Britain brought about by the war (artefacts, cause and effect) Study rationing. Introduced by the British government in January 1940 to keep everyone equally well fed. Explore why it was needed, disruptions to supply routes, food substances required for the military. Discuss and understand the importance of make do and mend in relation to children's everyday lives.</p> <p>Reflect on propaganda posters, their significance in persuading the population and create a propaganda poster aimed at children to encourage an aspect of make do and mend /rationing. Preparation of class trip to Holdenby House.</p> |
| 10 | <p>To understand that the DDAY Landings were a significant event in the ending of WW2- 6th June 1944 (chronology & cause and effect)(geography)</p> <p>Place D Day landings onto timeline. Understand the arrangements that were made for D Day, the locations chosen, the different countries involved, research and locate beaches used by Allies - its rearrangement due to poor weather – discuss cause and effect of D day in rest of war.</p> <p>Look at need for secrecy and coding: understand Alan Turing's contribution.</p> |
| 11 | <p>To investigate the final days of the war; VE Day, VJ Day – 8th May 1945 & 15th August 1945 (chronology and cause and effect)</p> <p>Understand how Hitler's death caused the Nazis to surrender, Allies won, VE Parties were held- gradually soldiers returned but many had mental and physical illness- families struggled, poor housing & rationing continued for a number of years- WW2 finally over once Japan surrendered due to atomic weapon attack.</p> |