

World War II Key Facts

1939

- Hitler sent his army to invade Poland.
- Hitler would not withdraw his army from Poland and people were scared that Germany would invade other countries.
- Britain and France declared war on Germany in September 1939 and this was the start of World War II.
- The Prime Minister announced that the war had started.

1940- Germany, Japan and Italy made a pact to stand together in opposition to the Allies.

1944- D Day (The Invasion of Normandy, France by the Allied Forces) became the turning point for World War II .

1945- The war ends in Europe and in the Far East.

More Facts

- At the start of World War II, the Allies were the United Kingdom, France and Poland. As the war progressed many other countries joined the Allies.
- More than 3.5 million children were evacuated from the cities during the war.
- Wartime food rationing began in 1940 and lasted nine years after the war had ended.



History Year 3

Spring 1

World War II



World War II Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Air raid	An attack by planes dropping bombs
Allies	Countries that joined together against Germany, Japan and Italy in World War II.
Blackout	Turning off street lights and other lights at night so that bombers
Blitz	German air raids. A German word meaning 'lightning war'.
Evacuation	When a person is moved away from a place of danger.
Gas mask	A protective mask to prevent breathing in of poisonous gases
Invaded	Attacked and taken over by an enemy
Rationing	A fixed amount of food and provisions for people.
Shelters	A safe place to hide during an air raid

1st September 1939	3rd September 1939	7th January 1940	10th May 1940	7th September 1940	6th June 1944	7th May 1945	8th May 1945	15th August 1945
Germany invades Poland	Britain and France declare war on Germany	Rationing of food begins	Churchill becomes Prime Minister	The London Blitz began. It lasted over eight weeks	D-Day (The invasion of Normandy), France	Germany Surrenders	VE Day (Victory in Europe)- the war ends in Europe	VJ Day (victory in Japan)- the war ends in the far east.

Knowledge and Understanding:

Children will learn:

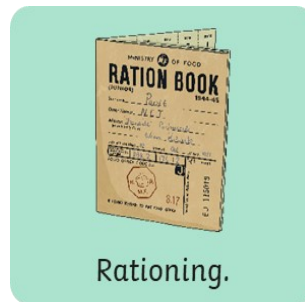
- Why World War II began and know the main countries involved.
- The leaders and the key events and dates of the war.
- The features of the Blitz and the types of areas most likely affected.
- How people protected themselves from bombing during the war.
- About evacuation and what it was like to be an evacuee.
- Why rationing was necessary and the impact.
- Some of the ways which the war affected people's lives.



Key skills and concepts:

Children will be able to:

- Place the time studied on a time line
- Use dates and times related to the study unit and the passing of time
- Sequence several events or artefacts
- Find out about everyday lives of people
- Compare with our life today
- Identify reasons for and the results of people's actions
- Understand why people may have wanted to do something
- Use a range of sources to find out about a period
- Select and record information
- Distinguish between different sources



Key Questions

Why and when did World War II begin?

Who were the some of the leaders at the time of the war?

Who were the Allies?

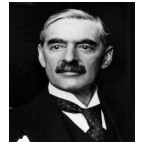
What sort of places were bombed and why?

How did people protect themselves during the WWII?

When and how did the war end?

Key People

Neville Chamberlain- Prime Minister of United Kingdom at the beginning of WWII.



Adolf Hitler- Leader of the German Army.



Winston Churchill- became Prime Minister of United Kingdom during War II.



Anne Frank- was a German born, Jewish teenager who was forced to go into hiding during WWII. Her diary became famous.

