

Knowledge Organiser – World War Two



Year 6 - Geography and History

What came before?	Year 5 – World War One
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Leaders	
Adolf Hitler	Leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor of Germany, 1933 - 1945 (also referred to as the Führer meaning leader)
Winston Churchill	UK Prime Minister, 1940 - 1945 (and again from 1951 - 1955)
Neville Chamberlain	UK Prime Minister, 1937 - 1940 (infamous for failed attempts to satisfy Hitler's demands prior to the war)



Key Vocabulary

Air-raid: An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.

Allies Countries: Countries (Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who fought the Axis Powers.

Axis Powers: Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that fought against the Allies.

Blitz: German air raids on Britain. From the German 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.

Evacuation: Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places.

Dictator: a ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained control by force.

Holocaust: The mass murder of around six million Jewish people by the Nazis.

Home Front: the civilian population whose armed forces are engaged in war abroad.

Kindertransport: was the rescue of refugee children from Nazi-controlled areas.

Luftwaffe: German air force during the war.

Nazi Party: National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.

Propaganda: information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.

Rationing: controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other products to avoid or reduce shortages.

Key Learning

How did World War Two begin?

In March 1938, Germany invaded and annexed Austria. On 29th September 1938, Germany signed a treaty called the Munich Agreement. This allowed Hitler to annex the Sudetenland 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 so Britain and France declared war on Germany.

How did World War Two affect life on the Home Front?

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.

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.

Before the war, women's jobs were limited. 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.

18 th August 1934	1 st December 1938	1 st September 1939	3 rd September 1939	8 th January 1940	7 th September 1940	6 th June 1944	7 th May 1945
Hiter becomes dictator of Germany.	The first Kindertransport leaves Berlin for Britain.	Germany invades Poland.	Britain and Germany declare war on Germany.	Food rationing begins in Britian	The Blitz begins.	The D-Day landings.	The Germans surrender to the Allies.