



Year 6- Knowledge organiser
Autumn 2: World War 2

Vocabulary

Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
Evacuation	When people have to leave a dangerous area and move to a safer place.
Nazi Party	German political party with racist and anti-Jewish ideas, led by Adolf Hitler.
Luftwaffe	The German air force during the Second World War.
Appeasement	To calm or satisfy a person, usually by giving what was asked for or is needed.
Holocaust	The Holocaust was a period of time during the Second World War when millions of people were persecuted and killed in Europe.
Battle of Britain	The prolonged bombardment of British cities by the German Luftwaffe and the aerial combat that accompanied it.

Key Events		
1939	1 st September	German troops invade Poland.
	3 rd September	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
1940	10 th May	The Battle of France begins.
	26 th May	Allied forces are evacuated from Dunkirk in France.
	10 th July	The Battle of Britain begins.
	7 th September	The Blitz begins.
1941	22 nd June	Germany invades the USSR (Soviet Union).
	7 th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US.
1943	16 th and 17 th May	The Dambusters bombing raid is carried out.
1944	6 th June	The D-Day landings.
1945	7 th May	Germany surrenders to the Allies.
	6 th and 9 th August	The US drops atomic bombs on two cities in Japan.



The government's 'Dig for Victory' campaign encouraged people to grow their own food. Some people also reared their own animals for meat and eggs. Clothes and other items were mended or made into new things.

Why did WW2 begin?

Treaty of Versailles
Adolf Hitler/ The Nazi Party gaining power
Appeasement
The Great Depression



The Battle of Britain/ The Blitz

In July 1940, Germany planned a secret mission to invade Britain. They began by sending the Luftwaffe (German air force) to bomb British ships, airfields and other targets. RAF (Royal Air Force) planes fought back in what were known as dogfights. Believing they were winning, the Luftwaffe moved on to bombing London on 7th September 1940 (the start of the Blitz). On 15th September, the Luftwaffe launched another attack but the RAF fought back and it was clear that the Germans would not be able to win.

Golden Threads

Society & Culture– How were children affected during WWII?

Leadership– What can we learn from leadership styles during WWII?

Legacy & Achievement– Why is the story of Anne Frank still important today?

Invasion & Settlement– How did invasion shape the events of WWII?

Religion & Beliefs– How did Hitler's antisemitic views influence racism then and now?

Economy– What was the economic positions of countries involved in WWII? What were the implications of rationing?