

Willerby Carr Lane Primary School - History

Topic: World War II

Year: 6

Strand: British History beyond 1066

What should I already know?

- The Victorian era saw many transformations to peoples' lives in terms of work and education

What will I know by the end of the unit?

How did the 2 nd World War start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After World War One ended in 1918, Germany had to give up land and was banned from having armed forces. • In 1933 the German people voted for a leader named Adolf Hitler, who led a political party in Germany called the National Socialists or Nazis. Hitler promised to make his country great again and quickly began to arm Germany again and to seize land from other countries. • Shortly before 5am on Friday 1st September 1939, German forces stormed the Polish frontier. Tanks and motorised troops raced into the country over ground, supported by Stuka dive bombers overhead. A total of 1.25 million German soldiers swept into Poland • World War Two in Europe began on 3rd September 1939 when the Prime Minister of Britain, Neville Chamberlain, declared war on Germany. It involved many of the world's countries.
What was the Blitz?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The heavy and frequent bombing attacks on London and other cities was known as the 'Blitz'. Night after night, from September 1940 until May 1941, German bombers attacked British cities, ports and industrial areas. • London was bombed every day and night, bar one, for 11 weeks. One third of London was destroyed. • Hull was the most severely damaged British city or town during the Second World War, with 95 percent of houses damaged. It was under air raid alert for 1,000 hours. • Hull was an industrial target that was easy to find due to its location at the axis of the Humber and the River Hull • Most air raids happened at night. • People were warned of a likely air raid by loud sirens, positioned in different parts of towns and cities. During the blitz, they became an almost daily part of life. • The sirens made a very loud and long signal or warning sound. • When people heard the siren, they would stop what they were doing and make for a shelter. •

What is evacuation?

- Evacuation means leaving a place. During the Second World War, many children living in big cities and towns were moved temporarily from their homes to places considered safer, usually out in the countryside.
- Being an evacuee must have been scary and exciting at the same time. The children had to leave their families and homes behind and try to fit in with host families in the country.
- Children had labels attached to them, as though they were parcels. They stood at railway stations not knowing where they were going nor if they would be split from brothers and sisters who had gathered with them. They felt scared about being away from their families but also excited about going to a place they had never seen before and only read about in books.
- The children arrived in the countryside, tired, hungry and uncertain whether they would ever see their families again.
- They were taken to the village hall, where they would be met by the **billeting officer** (the person in charge of finding them homes). A 'pick-your-own evacuee' sessions would then take place, where **host families** (the people they were going to live with) haggled over the most presentable children while the sicklier and grubbier children were left until last.

What was the Battle of Britain?

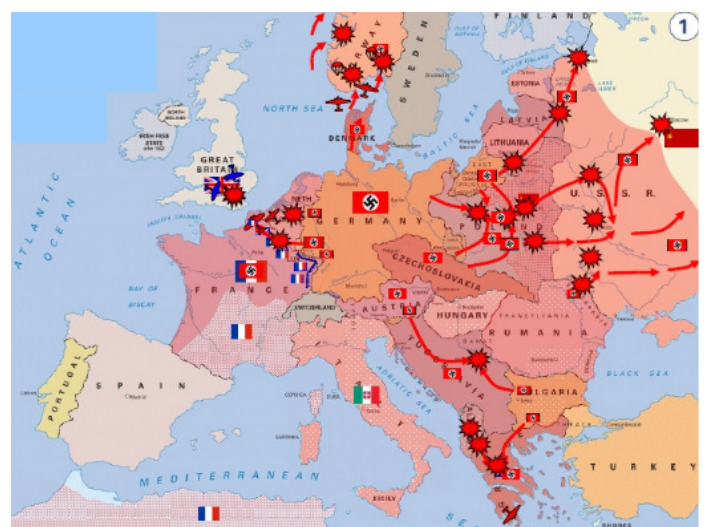
- In July 1940, Hitler gave orders for the preparation of a seaborne invasion of Britain, called **Operation Sealion**. To make this easier, he sent the Luftwaffe (German air force) to destroy Britain's Royal Air Force first.
- German leaders felt it was essential to destroy the British air force to stop it sinking the ships that would carry German soldiers across the Channel.
- Battle of Britain is the name commonly given to the effort by the Luftwaffe to gain air superiority over the Royal Air Force (RAF)
- October 1940, is generally considered to be the end of the Battle of Britain, after the RAF caused considerable damage to the Luftwaffe

What jobs did women do during the war?

- Before the Second World War, women were expected to be 'housewives' or perhaps to do certain 'women's jobs', such

	<p>as nursing or being a domestic servant or shop assistant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When men went to fight, women were called upon to fill their jobs, and this included many jobs that were previously thought of unsuitable for women. • Mechanics, engineers, Tank drivers, building ships, Working in factories - making bombs and aircraft parts, Air raid wardens, Driving fire engines, Plumbers, Ambulance drivers, WRVS volunteers, Nurses
Who was Anne Frank?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Frank was an ordinary German Jewish girl. • She hid in an annex with her family. • Anne Frank is well known because of her diary. • Hitler wanted to create what he saw was the perfect German, this meant that anyone who did not fit into his perfect image was persecuted (ill-treated) and/or killed. • By the end of World War II, six million Jews were killed because they were, in Hitler's eyes, 'different'.
How did the war end?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World War II ended in 1945 • the Allies accepted Germany's surrender, about a week after Adolf Hitler had committed suicide. • Japan did not surrender at the same time as Germany. It was able to hold out for another few months. • Atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9 respectively. After that Japan surrendered.






Vocabulary	
air raid shelter	a building to protect people from bombs dropped by planes
allies	countries which fought on the British side (including USA, Great Britain, France, Russia (1941-1945))
Anderson shelter	made of corrugated iron. Usually at the end of the garden
axis	countries which fought on the German side (including Italy, Germany, Japan, Russia (1939-1941))
blackout	system of ensuring no lights were visible after dark so that buildings could not be spotted by enemy planes
blitz	series of aerial bombing raids on the UK, mainly cities including London, Bristol & Nottingham
blitzkrieg	German quick strike invasion of Western Europe. Translated as 'lightning war'
enigma	a machine used by the Nazis to send coded messages
evacuee	someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place (normally from the cities to rural areas)
fascism	right wing political view associated with not allowing opposition and total control by a dictator
holocaust	mass murder of Jews and other groups of people by the Nazis
Morrison shelter	metal cage used inside the house. Could double as a kitchen table
Nazi	member of the fascist German political party which came to power in 1933. Symbol = swastika



Key Dates / Timeline		
Date	Event	Description
September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland	This was the event that led to Britain's involvement in the war.
September 3, 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany (start of WW2)	In response to Hitler's invasion of Poland, Britain and France, both allies of the overrun nation declare war on Germany.
January, 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK	The British government introduced food rationing. The scheme was designed to ensure fair shares for all at a time of national shortage.
July, 1940	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain	The Luftwaffe attacked Britain, performing reconnaissance missions and targeting coastal defenses, ports and radar stations.
December 7, 1941	The Japanese attack the US navy in Pearl Harbor	The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise preemptive military strike by the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service upon the United States against the naval base at Pearl Harbour in Honolulu, Hawaii on Sunday morning, December 7, 1941. The attack led to the United States' formal entry into World War II the next day
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	Holed up in a bunker under his headquarters in Berlin, Adolf Hitler commits suicide.
May 8, 1945	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day	Victory in Europe Day, generally known as VE Day (Great Britain) or V-E Day (North America), or simply as V-Day, is a day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces
August 1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan	This was done by the US killing approximately 226,000 people.
September 2, 1945	Japan surrenders signalling the end of WW2	The surrender of Japan was announced by Hirohito on August 15 and formally signed on September 2, 1945, bringing the hostilities of World War II to a close



Burnt out National Picture Theatre (after Hull Blitz). Still unchanged to this day!

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