

History

World War II



Atlantic Academy Portland
an Aspirations Academy



Year 6 - Summer 1

Name: _____

Class: _____

Twentieth Century Conflict | World War II | Year 6 | Summer

Timeline (1939-1945)

1	June 28 th 1919	Germany lose World War One and sign the Treaty of Versailles , accepting responsibility for the war and promising to pay billions of pounds in reparations.
2	Sept 30 th 1938	Treaty of Munich gives part of Czechoslovakia (Sudetenland) to Hitler. Chamberlain calls the deal 'peace in our time'.
3	Sept 1 st 1939	Hitler invades Poland .
4	Sept 3 rd 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
5	Sept 1939 – May 1940	' Phoney War '. No military action between Britain and Germany.
6	May 10 th 1940	Holland and Belgium attacked and invaded by German using blitzkrieg . The battle of France begins, Germany defeats French in six weeks.
7	May 13 th 1940	Chamberlain resigns and Winston Churchill becomes prime minister of a wartime coalition government
8	May 26 th 1940	British and French forces in France forced to retreat to Britain from Dunkirk . 338,000 men rescued.
9	June 22 nd 1940	France signs armistice with Germany. France is devastated and now under German occupation.
10	July – Oct 1940	Battle of Britain . Hitler sends the Luftwaffe to eliminate the Royal Air Force, ready for an invasion. RAF successfully defend Britain.
11	Sept 1940-May 1941	The Blitz . Many British towns heavily bombed by the Luftwaffe. Britain also bomb German cities.
12	June 22 nd 1941	Hitler attacks Russia , even though he signed a pact in 1939 promising not to.
13	July 1941	Germany begin the ' Final Solution ', murdering Jews & other groups in concentration camps across Europe.
14	Dec 7 th 1941	Japan attacks the USA by bombing Pearl Harbour in Hawaii. The USA enters the war the next day.
15	1942-1944	Battles and bombing occur across Europe, Africa, the Atlantic ocean and other parts of the world. Allies begin to take back control.
16	June 6 th 1944	D-Day . Allies launch huge attack on Germany in Normandy, and take back France.
17	April 20 th 1945	Hitler commits suicide , realising he has lost the war.
18	May 8 th 1945	VE Day . After Germany offers an unconditional surrender, victory in Europe is celebrated.
19	Aug 1945	After the Japanese refuse to surrender, the USA drop an atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan then surrenders.

The Two Sides

1	The Allies	Britain, France, The Soviet Union, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India, China and other commonwealth countries.
2	Axis Powers	Germany, Italy and Japan.

Important People

1	Adolf Hitler	Leader of the Nazi Party and dictator of Germany
2	Neville Chamberlain	Prime Minister of Great Britain
3	Winston Churchill	Prime Minister of Great Britain 1940-1945
4	Benito Mussolini	Prime Minister (dictator) of Italy 1922-1943.
5	Franklin D Roosevelt	President of USA 1932-1945. Also known as 'FDR'.
6	Joseph Stalin	General Secretary (Leader) of Soviet Union 1922-1953.
7	Harry S Truman	Became President in 1945 after death of FDR.
8	Dwight D Eisenhower	General of US army. Led the D-Day invasion. President 1953-1961.
9	Joseph Goebbels	In charge of propaganda, close associate of Hitler.
10	Herman Goering	German military leader and second in command after Hitler.

Vocabulary

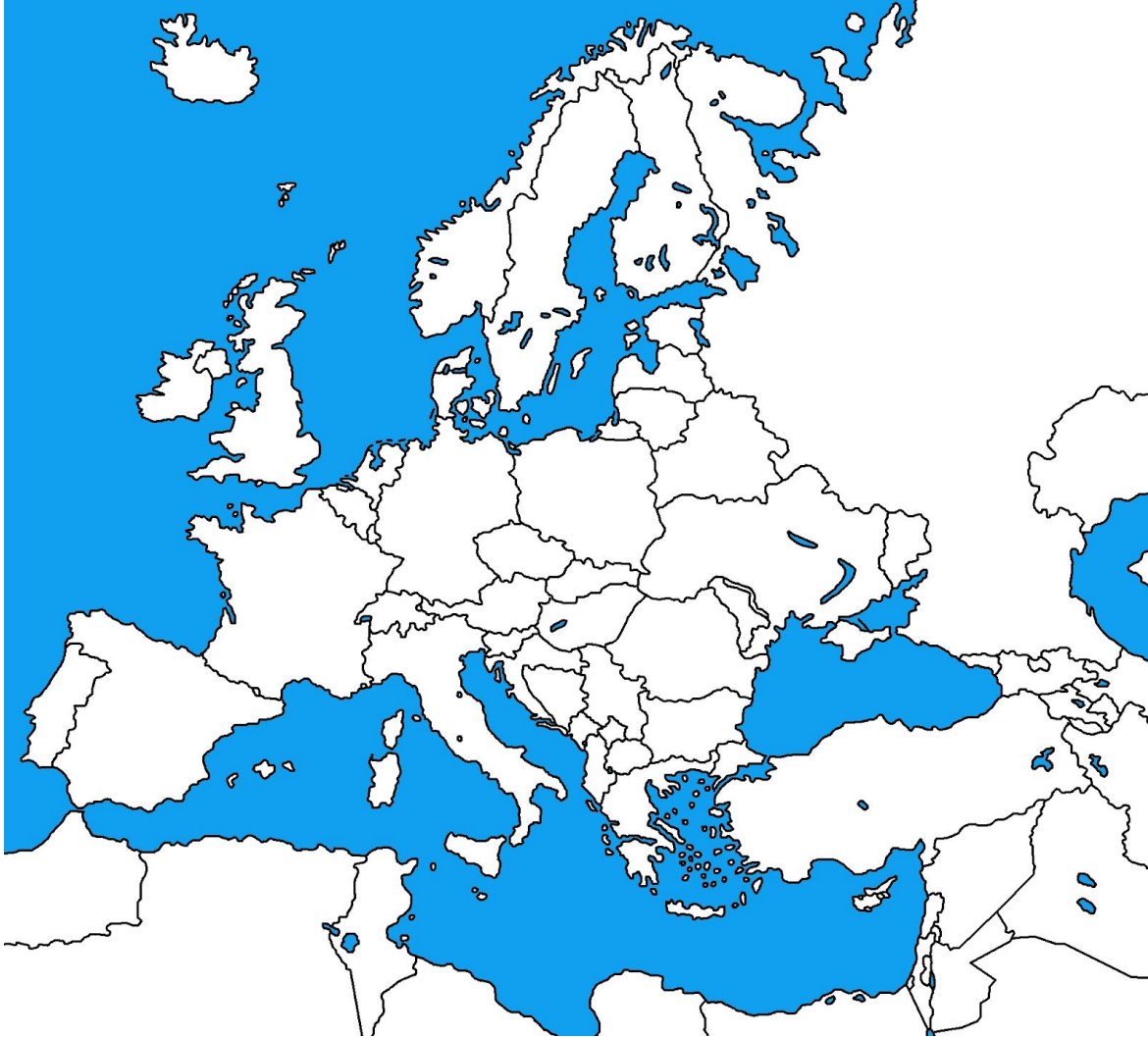
1	appeasement	A political strategy to try and prevent war by giving an aggressor what they want.
2	atomic bomb	An extremely powerful bomb, capable of destroying whole cities.
3	blitzkrieg	'Lightning war'. Light tanks, planes and infantry attack together with speed and surprise.
4	The Holocaust	Mass murder of Jews and other groups by Nazis.
5	<i>lebensraum</i>	'Living space'. The idea that more land was needed for the German people.
6	Luftwaffe	German air force.
7	Nazi Party	Political party led by Hitler. Also known as the National Socialist German Workers' Party or NSDAP
8	propaganda	Controlling news and media to present your side favourably.
9	Soviet Union	A country made up of Russia and other communist states, which are now independent.
10	Third Reich	The third 'empire'. Another name for the Nazi state from 1933-1945.

LESSON ONE: THE BEGINNING OF WWII

What were the key events which caused World War II to begin?

Key Terms:
Allied Powers
Appeasement
Axis Powers
Fascism

Do now:



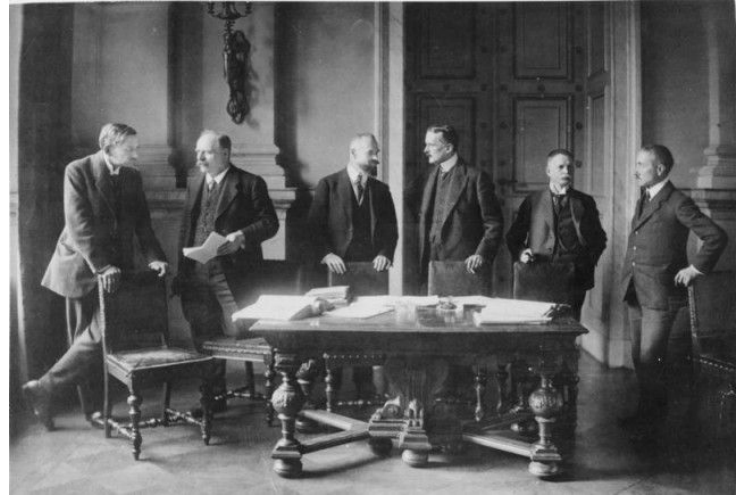
List the countries in Europe.
Which of these were involved in WWII?

Key Question: Why did the war begin?

Everybody Reads

Treaty of Versailles

The Treaty of Versailles ended World War I between Germany and the Allied Powers. Because Germany had lost the war, the treaty was very harsh against Germany. Germany was forced to "accept the responsibility" of the war damages suffered by the Allies. The treaty required that Germany pay a huge sum of money called reparations.



The problem with the treaty is that it left the German economy in ruins. People were starving and the government was in chaos.

Japanese Expansion

In the period before World War II, Japan was growing rapidly. However, as an island nation they did not have the land or the natural resources to sustain their growth. Japan began to look to grow their empire in order to gain new resources. They invaded Manchuria in 1931 and China in 1937.



Fascism

With the economic turmoil left behind by World War I, some countries were taken over by dictators who formed powerful fascist governments. These dictators wanted to expand their empires and were looking for new lands to conquer. The first fascist government was Italy which was ruled by the dictator Mussolini. Italy invaded and took over Ethiopia in 1935. Adolf Hitler would later emulate Mussolini in his takeover of Germany. Another Fascist government was Spain ruled by the dictator Franco.



Hitler and the Nazi Party

In Germany, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party rose to power. The Germans were desperate for someone to turn around their economy and restore their national pride. Hitler offered them hope. In 1934, Hitler was proclaimed the "Führer" (leader) and became dictator of Germany.



Hitler resented the restrictions put on Germany by the Treaty of Versailles. While talking about peace, Hitler began to rearm Germany. He allied Germany with Mussolini and Italy. Then Hitler looked to restore Germany to power by expanding his empire. He first took over Austria in 1938. When the League of Nations did nothing to stop him, Hitler became bolder and took over Czechoslovakia in 1939.

Appeasement

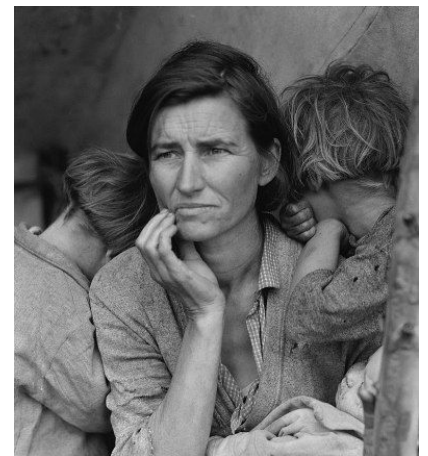
After World War 1, the nations of Europe were weary and did not want another war. When countries such as Italy and Germany became aggressive and began to take over their neighbors and build up their armies, countries such as Britain and France hoped to keep peace through "appeasement." This meant that they tried to make Germany and Hitler happy rather than try to stop him. They hoped that by meeting his demands he would be satisfied and there wouldn't be any war.



Unfortunately, the policy of appeasement backfired. It only made Hitler bolder. It also gave him time to build up his army.

Great Depression

The period before World War II was a time of great economic suffering throughout the world called the Great Depression. Many people were out of work and struggling to survive. This created unstable governments and worldwide turmoil that helped lead to World War II.



Interesting Facts about the Causes of World War 2

Because of the Great Depression, many countries were experiencing strong fascist and communist movements including France and Great Britain prior to the war.

Prior to World War 2, the United States attempted to stay out of world issues with a policy of isolationism. They were not members of the League of Nations.

As part of their appeasement policy, Britain and France agreed to let Hitler have part of Czechoslovakia in the Munich Agreement. Czechoslovakia had no say in the deal. The Czechoslovakians called the agreement the "Munich Betrayal."

Japan had taken over Korea, Manchuria, and a significant part of China before World War 2 began.

Quiz:

1. What was the name of the treaty signed between Germany and the Allied Powers to end World War 1?

2. Which country invaded China in 1937 in an effort to expand their empire?

3. What type of government ruled by a dictator took control in Spain?

4. Which political party took control of the German government?

5. Who became dictator of Germany in 1934?

6. True or False: Prior to World War II, the United States attempted to stay out of world issues.

7. What foreign policy tried to keep Hitler happy rather than punish him for taking over countries?

8. What worldwide economic crisis took place prior to World War 2?

9. True or False: By giving Hitler the country of Czechoslovakia, Britain and France almost prevented World War 2.

10. Which of the following was a cause that helped lead to World War 2?

- A. The rise of fascism
- B. Harsh treatment of Germany by the Treaty of Versailles
- C. Appeasement of aggressive countries
- D. Great Depression

All of the above

LESSON TWO: EVACUEES

Do now:

List the four key events which led to the outbreak of WWII.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Key Terms:

Billeting officer
Evacuation
Host family

Event which had the most significance:

Why?

Key Question: What impact did World War II have on British citizens and children?

Everybody Reads

With the start of the Second World War came Operation Pied Piper. This was the plan to evacuate civilians from cities and other areas that were at high risk of being bombed or becoming a battlefield in the event of an invasion. The country was split into three types of areas: Evacuation, Neutral and Reception, with the first evacuation areas including places like Greater London, Birmingham and Glasgow, and Reception areas being rural such as Kent, East Anglia and Wales. Neutral areas were places that would neither send nor receive evacuees.

Fear that German bombing would cause civilian deaths prompted the government to evacuate children, mothers with infants and the infirm from British towns and cities during the Second World War. Evacuation took place in several waves. The first came on 1 September 1939 - the day Germany invaded Poland and two days before the British declaration of war. Over the course of three days 1.5 million evacuees were sent to rural locations considered to be safe.

Why was evacuation introduced by the Government?

The British government was worried that a new war might begin when Hitler came to power in 1933. They were afraid that British cities and towns would be targets for bombing raids by aircraft.

Why was it important for people to be evacuated?

Evacuation tried to ensure the safety of young children from the cities that were considered to be in danger of German bombing - London, Coventry, Birmingham, Portsmouth etc.



Who was evacuated?

Schoolchildren (827,000) and their teachers

Mothers with children under five (524,000)

Pregnant women (12,000)

Some disabled people

A further two million or so more wealthy individuals evacuated 'privately', some settling in hotels for the duration and several thousands travelling to Canada, the United States, South Africa, Australia and the Caribbean.



What clothes did children take with them?

The government recommended that in addition to their gas mask and identity card the evacuees had the following items:

<u>Boys:</u>	<u>Girls:</u>	<u>Other Items</u>
2 vests	Vest	Overcoat or mackintosh
2 pairs of pants	Pair of knickers	Comb
Pair of trousers	Petticoat	1 pair of Wellington boots
2 pairs of socks	2 pairs of stockings	Towel
6 handkerchiefs	6 handkerchiefs	Soap and Facecloth
Pullover or jersey	Slip (like a very long vest with shoulder straps)	Toothbrush
	Blouse	Boots or shoes
	Cardigan	Sandwiches
		Packet of nuts and raisins
		Dry biscuits
		Barley sugar (rather than sugar)

Evacuation by train

How were children evacuated?

By train and road

Where were they evacuated to?

To smaller towns and villages in the countryside. Some children were sent to stay with relatives outside in the countryside, but others were sent to live with complete strangers.



Billeting officers were responsible for helping to find homes for the evacuees. Householders in the country who billeted (housed) city children were given money by the government.

When were they first evacuated?

At 11.07am on Thursday 31st August 1939 the order was given to evacuate forthwith.

1.5 million children, pregnant women and other vulnerable people such as the disabled, evacuated to safer countryside locations in just two days.

There were no big bombing raids on Britain in the first months of the war (known as The Phoney War) as a result by early 1940 many children had returned home.

When were they evacuated again?

They were evacuated again when heavy bombing raids started in the autumn of 1940 - The Blitz - and then again later, in 1944, when Germany attacked Britain with V1 Flying Bombs and V2 rockets.

How many people were evacuated during the war?

By the end of the Second World War around 3.5 million people, mainly children had experienced evacuation. No one was forced to go but parents were encouraged by posters and told that their children would be safer from German bombs if they moved to the country.

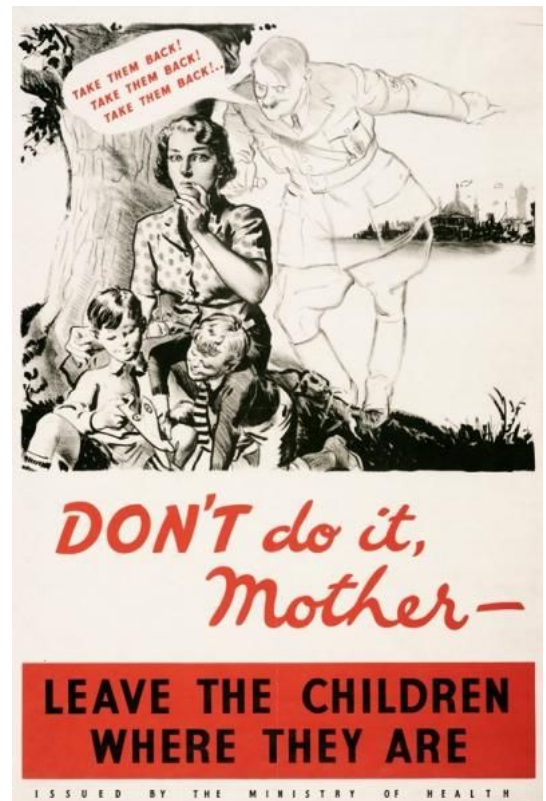
At the station

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.

On arrival

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' session would then take place, where host families (the people they were going to live with) haggled over the most presentable children while the sicker and grubbier children were left until last.



1. During the war children had to carry what?

2. The homes that evacuees moved to were called what?

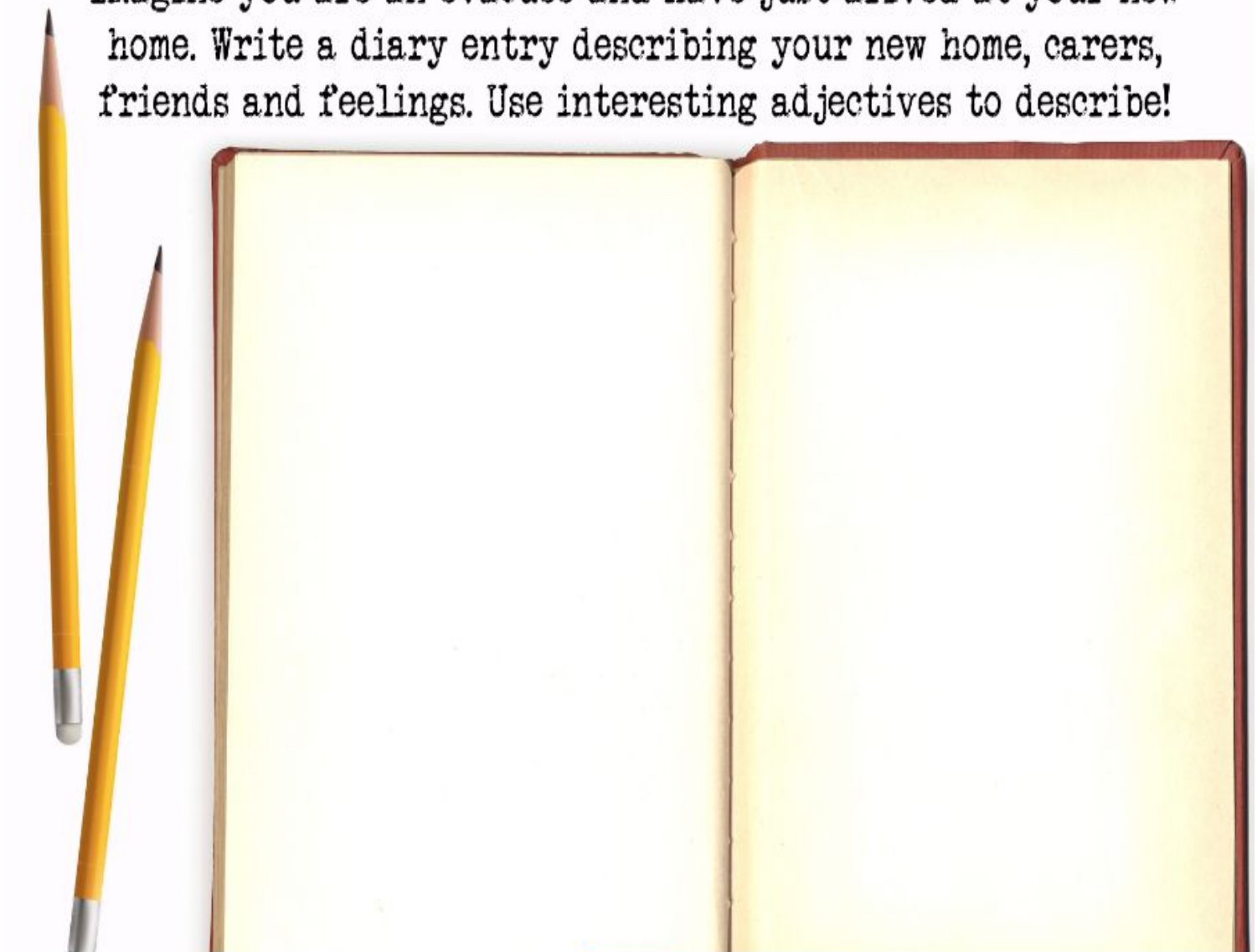
3. What were evacuees?

4. Why did the British government want to evacuate children?

5. What was a billet?

6. Where was the government most actively encouraging British parents to evacuate their children to?

Imagine you are an evacuee and have just arrived at your new home. Write a diary entry describing your new home, carers, friends and feelings. Use interesting adjectives to describe!



LESSON THREE: THE HOLOCAUST

Do now:

It is 1939. You are being evacuated to the country. Choose five items to take with you in your suitcase. Each object MUST be authentic and available as a child in 1939.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Key Terms:

Fuhrer
Final Solution
Gestapo
Holocaust
Nazi
Darwinism

Key Question: How did the holocaust affect the world?

The Holocaust is one of the most terrible events in human history. It occurred during World War II when Hitler was leader of Germany. Six million Jewish people were murdered by the Nazis. This included as many as 1 million Jewish children. Millions of other people that Hitler didn't like were killed as well. This included Polish people, Catholics, Serbs, and handicapped people. It is thought that the Nazis murdered as many as 17 million innocent people.



Why did Hitler and the Nazis do it?

Hitler hated Jewish people and blamed them for Germany losing World War I. He considered Jewish people to be less than human. Hitler also believed in the superiority of the Aryan race. He wanted to use Darwinism and breeding to create a race of perfect people.

Hitler wrote in his book Mein Kampf that when he became ruler he would rid Germany of all the Jews. Not many people believed he would really do this, but as soon as he became Chancellor he started his work against the Jews. He made laws that said Jews had no rights. Then he organized attacks on Jewish businesses and homes. On November 9, 1938 many Jewish homes and businesses were burnt down or vandalized. This night was called the Kristallnacht or "Night of Broken Glass".

Ghettos

During World War II when the Nazis would take over a city in Europe they would force all of the Jewish people into one area of town. This area was called a ghetto and was fenced in with barbed wire and guarded. There was little food, water, or medicine available. It was also very crowded with multiple families sometimes sharing a single room to live in.

Concentration Camps

All Jewish people were eventually to be brought to concentration camps. They were told they were relocating to a new and better place, but this was not the case. Concentration camps were like prison camps. People were forced to do hard labor. The weak were quickly killed or died of starvation. Some camps even had gas chambers. People would be led into the chambers in large groups only to be killed with poison gas. The concentration camps were horrible places.

Hiding

Many Jewish people hid from the Nazis during World War II. They would hide with non-Jewish families. Sometimes they would pretend to be a part of the family and sometimes they would hide in hidden rooms or in a basement or attic. Some were able to eventually escape across the border into a free country, but many hid for years sometimes in the same room.

Quiz:

1. Who was the leader of Germany?

2. What was the leader of Germany's book called?

3. What was the full name of the Nazi Party?

4. Which people were put in concentration camps (which groups of people did Hitler not like)?

5. In 20 words, explain what happened at concentration camps.

LESSON FOUR: A WARTIME DIET

Do now:

- 4 farthings in a penny.
- 2 half pennies in one penny
- 12 pennies in a shilling.
- 20 shillings in a pound.
- 240 pence in a pound.

Key Terms:

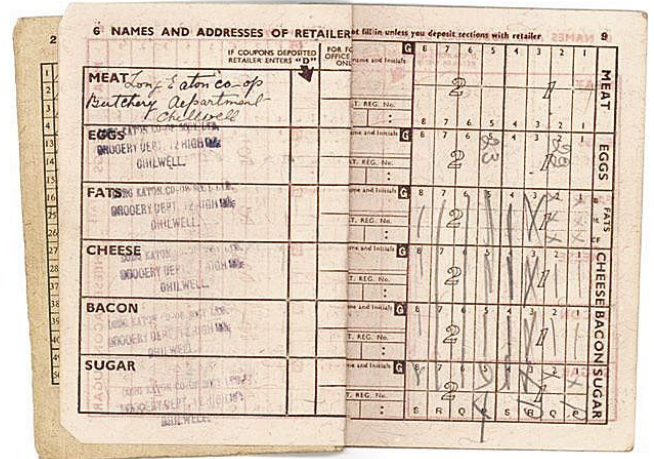
- Adapted
- Evacuated
- Imported
- Regulations
- Substitute
- Supplement

Complete this table using the information above

Item	£-s-d price	New money price	Today's price
$\frac{3}{4}$ Tea	3-0		£1.77
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb butter	1-10		76p
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb margarine	1-1 $\frac{1}{2}$		28p
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb bacon	2-0		£2.49
6 eggs	2-3		94p
1 tin beans	1-0		36p
1 tin tomatoes	1-3		58p
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb cheese	9d		80p
Biscuits	2-0		40p

Key Question: How did rationing affect Britain?

World War Two had a massive impact on the diet of ordinary British people. Before the war Britain had relied on food supplies imported from all over the world, but now enemy attacks on British merchant ships resulted in shortages. In an effort to make sure food was shared fairly, the government introduced rationing. People were also encouraged to grow their own food and to use substitute foods to supplement their rations.



The adult ration book above shows the foods that were put 'on ration' when the government introduced rationing in January 1940. Everyone was supplied with their own ration book, even children. People then had to register with a local shopkeeper, and could only buy rationed goods if they had enough coupons.



Lesson five: Women in World War II

How did the role of women change in WWII and how did that influence future perceptions of women in Great Britain?

Do now:

List 10 professions which women undertake in 2020:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____

Key Terms:
Anti-aircraft gun
Auxiliary
Bletchley Park
Compulsory
Conscripted
Non-combatant
Operating
Orderlies
Recruitment

Which of these were also undertaken during World War II?

Women in World War II

With thousands of men away serving in the armed forces, British women took on a variety of new jobs during the First and Second World Wars.

Many of these roles had traditionally only been done by men and were thought unsuitable for women because they were dirty or difficult. But now, all over the country, women became train cleaners, bus conductors, volunteer policewomen; they worked with dangerous chemicals in factories, drove tractors on farms and transported coal on barges.



Look at these posters. What is their purpose? Describe what is shown.

Women in World War II

Women's work would be vital to the British war effort in World War Two, so much so that it soon became compulsory (women had to do it by law). Early in 1941, Ernest Bevin, the Government Minister for Labour, declared that, 'one million wives' were 'wanted for war work'. Later that year, in December 1941, women began to be conscripted for war work, when Parliament passed the National Service Act.

All unmarried women aged 20-30, (later extended to 19-43), now had to either join the armed forces, work in a factory or work on the land with the Women's Land Army.

Women in the Armed Forces

During the Second World War, women served in the armed forces, including, for example:

The Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS)

The ATS was the women's branch of the British Army during World War Two (see the ATS recruitment poster above). Women between the ages of 17 and 43 could join and, although they were barred from serving in battle, they could take on other roles, such as cooks, storekeepers, orderlies, drivers and postal workers. Later in the war, when there was a shortage of men available to do some jobs, women in the ATS became radar operators and anti-aircraft gun crew members as well.

The Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS)

At the start of the war, the women's arm of the Royal Navy was seen as a way of freeing men in non-combatant roles (like driving or cooking) to fight. 'Join the Wrens today and free a man to join the Fleet', one recruitment poster urged. Nicknamed 'Wrens', these women went on to do extremely important and varied work, from code-breaking at Bletchley Park to operating radar equipment.

Women also served with a range of other services:

- the Women's Land Army and the Women's Timber Corps
- as pilots and ground crew in the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA)
- in the Women's Auxiliary Service, as voluntary policewomen
- as military nurses or volunteer nurses (VADs) with the Voluntary Aid Detachment
- and even as spies with the Special Operations Executive (SOE)

Describe the role of women in these pictures:



1. List five jobs which women undertook for the first time during WWII?

2. Why did the government produce posters aimed at women during WWII?

3. When was the National Service Act passed?

4. What were the three choices for unmarried women?

5. List three organisations from the Armed Forces in which women served in WWII
