

1939 - 1945 World War 2



Year 6 - Term 2 History Knowledge Organiser



Who? Major leaders of Allies

Britain - Winston Churchill
 United States of America - Franklin Roosevelt
 Soviet Union - Joseph Stalin
 France - Charles de Gaulle

Who? Major leaders of the Axis

Germany - Adolf Hitler
 Italy - Benito Mussolini
 Japan - Emperor Hirohito



Order of events leading up to the war

The Treaty of Versailles is signed.
 Financial problems in Germany.
 Adolf Hitler starts the Nationalist Socialist Party (Nazi Party).
 The Nazi Party wins the General Election.
 Neville Chamberlain meets with Hitler and declares 'Peace for our time'.
 Germany invades Poland.
 Britain declares war on Germany.



Timeline of Main Events

1939	Germany invades Poland. WW II begins.
1940	Germany conquers France Battle of Britain - Germany bombs London
1941	Germany invades the Soviet Union (Russia) Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. U.S. enters war
1942	Battle of Midway - a U.S. victory Battle of Stalingrad - a Russian victory
1943	The Battle of Midway was the turning point of the war in the Pacific. The Battle of Stalingrad was the turning point of the war in Europe.
1944	D-Day: Allied soldiers land in France to liberate Europe
1945	Germany surrenders Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki - Japan surrenders



Key Vocabulary

Allies
 Axis
 Nazi Party
 Fuhrer
 Holocaust
 Concentration camps
 Anti-Semitism
 Jews
 Aryan
 Propaganda
 Rationing
 Evacuation
 Evacuees
 The Blitz
 Blitzkrieg
 Military
 swastika

Main facts of World War 2

The war lasted six years and one day.
 WWII began on September 1st 1939.
 WWII ended on September 2nd 1945.
 The war began when Germany invaded Poland.
 Great Britain declared war against Germany on September 3rd 1939.
 Germany was led by Adolf Hitler - the leader of the Nazi party.
 Hitler had extreme anti-Semitic beliefs, which meant that he wanted to eradicate Jewish people.
 The war had two sides: The Allies and the Axis powers.
 Great Britain was bombed heavily during the Blitz.
 It's estimated that 55 million people died.
 It was Japan that officially ended the war on 2nd September 1945.



