

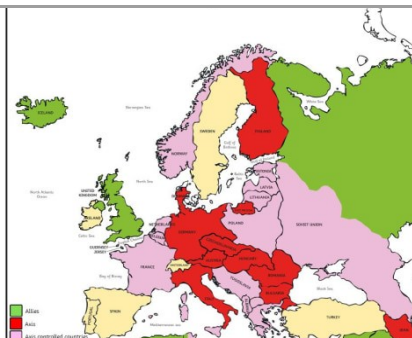
World War Two Knowledge Organiser

Timeline of events

1st –3rd September 1939	Hitler invades Poland. Britain and France promised to help Poland. Britain and France declare war on Germany.
September 1939 onwards	Evacuation of children to the countryside
10th May 1940	After a slow start to the war, Germany use Blitzkrieg technique. Within 6 weeks, France, Belgium and Netherlands captured.
10th July 1940	Battle of Britain. British ships bombed by Luftwaffe. Mass bombing of airfields, harbours...
7th Sep 1940	The Blitz. Bombing of London and other cities by air. London bombed for 57 consecutive nights. Children evacuated to the countryside.
7th Dec 1941	Japan bombs Pearl Harbour in Hawaii. Up until this point the USA had remained neutral. The next day they declared war on Japan.
30th April 1945	Hitler commits suicide.
7th May 1945	Germany surrenders.
August 1945	USA drops atomic bombs on Japan.
2nd September 1945	WW2 ends

Key countries involved

Allies		Axis Powers	
Great Britain		Germany	
France		Italy	
Poland	USA	Japan	



Why did WW2 begin?

Hitler wanted to take over many countries. and had longed planned an invasion on Poland. Great Britain and France had agreed they would support Poland if it was attacked and so when Hitler invaded Poland, war was declared.

Key Vocabulary

Allies	Countries (including Britain, France and Poland) who fought against the axis powers.
Axis Powers	Countries (including (Germany, Japan and Italy) who fought against the allies.
Blitz	A prolonged period of German air raids on Britain. From the German 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightning war'.
Concentration Camps	Prisons where Jewish people and other prisoners were held by the Nazis.
Evacuation	Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places e.g. from big cities to the countryside to avoid bombing.
Holocaust	The mass murder of around six million Jewish people by the Nazis, as well as other persecuted groups.
Luftwaffe	The German air force during the war.
Nazi	Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.



Winston Churchill



Adolf Hitler



Anne Frank

Key People

British Prime Minister between 1940 and 1945. He took over after a disastrous start to the war in which Nazi Germany had conquered most of Europe.

Leader of the Nazi Party from 1933-1945. Hitler's Germany invaded Poland in 1939 to start the war. He initiated the Holocaust.

A German-Dutch diarist. One of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

