

# World War II - Year 6 - Term 3



The Second World War lasted for 6 years from **September 1939** to **September 1945**. **Adolph Hitler** (the leader of the Nazi party and Germany) led invasions into other countries during the 1930s. When Germany invaded Poland in 1939, our Prime Minister at the time, **Neville Chamberlain**, declared that Great Britain was now at war with Germany.

On 7th September 1940, the **Luftwaffe** (the German airforce), began bombing London and other cities in the UK. This was known as **The Blitz**. The capital faced almost two months of continuous bombing, while other major industrial cities such as Liverpool, Birmingham and Sheffield were also targeted.

Life during The Blitz was hard. Cities were told to go into **blackout** during the night so that light could not be seen from the sky. **Air raid sirens** would signal for people to get into **air raid shelters** to avoid being bombed.

The **Battle of Britain** took place between **10th July 1940** and **31st October 1940**. It was the ongoing battle between the RAF (Royal Air Force) and the German Luftwaffe to control the skies above the British Isles.

Children living in cities were **evacuated** to the countryside. Each child had a label, a **gas mask** and a suitcase of belongings. Children lived with host families and life was very different.

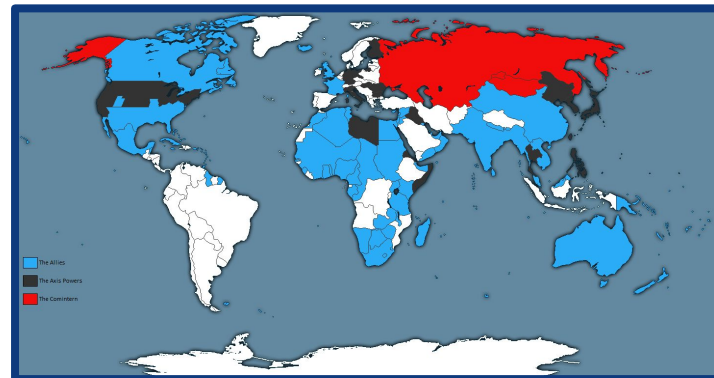
## What do you already know?



- The location and names of continents and oceans.
- That there is a cause and effect in periods of history.
- To check reliability of evidence - primary/secondary evidence and fact or opinion.



The Blitz



Allies and axis countries

# 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)
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	From the German word <i>Blitzkrieg</i> meaning 'lightning war'. A series of aerial bombing raids on the UK, mainly cities including London, Bristol and Nottingham.
Enigma	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).
Nazis	Member of the fascist German political party which came to power in 1933.

	Date	Key events
1	September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland
2	September 3, 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany ( <i>start of WW2</i> )
3	January, 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK
4	May to June, 1940	Dunkirk evacuated and France surrenders to Germany Germany uses blitzkrieg to take over much of Western Europe
5	July, 1940	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain ( <i>The Battle of Britain and the Blitz begins</i> ) Germany, Italy and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact creating the axis alliance
6	December 7, 1941	The Japanese attack the US navy in Pearl Harbor. The next day, the USA enters the war fighting with the allies
7	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
9	May 7, 1945	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day
10	August 1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan by the US killing approximately 226,000 people
11	September 2, 1945	Japan surrenders signaling the end of WW2
12	July, 1954	Rationing ends in the UK



Above left: Enigma machine



Above right: Swastika (symbol of Nazis)

Below: Remains of a house after a bombing raid during the Blitz



*'History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.'*

Churchill



*'It is not truth that matters, but victory' – Hitler (performing Nazi salute above)*

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

Dinosaurs	Stone Age	Bronze Age	Ancient Egypt	Ancient Greece	Iron Age	Romans	Vikings	Anglo-Saxons	Mesians	Normans	Tudors	Victorians	WWII
145 million years ago	30,000 - 3,000BC	3300 BC - 1200 BC	3100 BC - 332 BC	900 BC - 320 BC	800 BC - 43 AD	750 BC - 47AD	793 BC - 1066 AD	410 BC - 1066 AD	250 BC - 900 AD	1066	1485-1603	1837-1901	1939 - 1945
BC means before the birth of Jesus						AD means after the birth of Jesus							