

Y6 History: World War II



Why are we learning about World War II?

It is important to know about WWII because learning about the conflicts that have happened between countries in the past enables to understand the present. WWII was a time in which there were many huge advances including: technology; industry; medical advances; as well as political and social changes. Understanding the challenges of war also helps us to show both compassion and tolerance towards others and learn from our mistakes.

We are building on our previous learning about:

A range of history topics, including those studying the local area

- Significant historical events, including those beyond living memory (Y1 &2) *Through the Window; Great Fire of London*
- Local history study (Y3&4)
- Our understanding of the Geography of Europe from Year 3&4 – *Europe*.

Experiences we will have:

- VE Day celebration
- Analysis of propaganda posters

Important questions to answer:

- Why did Neville Chamberlain decide to go to war with Germany? Do you agree with him?
- What was the Holocaust?
- What role did those who didn't fight have in winning the war?
- Why and how did the UK government use propaganda during the war?
- What was VE Day and how was it celebrated?

Things we need to know:

- To know that WWII started following an ultimatum given to Germany and why Britain decided to go to war
- To know that the Nazi party persecuted Jewish people and why they did this
- To know about the Home Front and the role of women and others who didn't fight, such as conscientious objectors
- To know that propaganda is biased political information that was used to give a particular point of view during WWII
- To know that VE Day was the celebration of the end of WWII in Europe and to know how it was celebrated

Skills we need to learn:

- I can justify Neville Chamberlain's reasons for going to war
- I can analyse the devastating actions of the war including the Holocaust
- I can evaluate the significance of life on the Home Front
- I can assess the effectiveness of propaganda posters
- I can explain how VE Day was celebrated in the UK

Subject Specific Vocabulary:

Allies Axis evacuation anti-semitism persecution	Nazi Holocaust Concentration camps propaganda sacrifice	Adolf Hilter Winston Churchill Neville Chamberlain conscientious objector
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