



# World War II



Timeline					
September 1939	January 1940	September 1940	December 1941	June 1943	8 <sup>th</sup> May 1945
Germany invades Poland and the British Prime Minister declares war on Germany. Evacuation of children from major cities begins.	Bacon, butter and sugar rationing begins.	The Blitz begins.	Japan attack Pearl Harbour.	Allied invasion of France from Britain (D-Day).	VE day celebrated to mark the end of war in Europe.

Key Vocabulary	
allies	A group of countries who have pledged to fight together.
air raid	A sudden attack by bombing planes.
evacuation	Leaving a place for protection.
government	The group of people with the authority to govern a country or state.
suburbs	An area of a town and city, a little away from the main part, where there are fewer big buildings and mainly houses, schools and shops.
siren	A device that makes a loud signal or warning sound.
blackout	A period when all lights must be turned off or covered to stop them from being seen during an air raid.
blitz	A shorten form of the German word 'Blitzkrieg' which means lightning war.
civilians	A person not in the armed services or the police force.
rationing	To allow each person to only receive a fixed amount of a product.

## Sticky Knowledge

**Which countries were involved in World War II?**

The Allies:

- United Kingdom (and countries in the British Empire)
- United States (from 1941 onwards)
- France (until the German invasion in 1940)
- Soviet Union (today known as Russia)

The Axis:

- Nazi Germany
- Italy
- Japan.

**What caused World War II?**

World War II started because of problems going back to World War I. The peace treaty at the end of World War I was unfair to Germany and the country became very poor and had to take the blame for starting the War. Hitler promised to make Germany great again and invaded Poland in September 1939 to reclaim land they lost at the end of World War I which caused Britain and France to declare war.

**Why were children evacuated to the countryside?**

Children were evacuated to the countryside because there was a fear that the Nazis would attack major cities where there were factories that made things for the army and people believed that the children would be in great danger.

**Why was food rationed?**

Food was rationed to make sure there was enough for everyone. Only certain foods like meat, eggs, butter, cheese, tea and coffee were rationed either because they came from animal or they came from abroad and ships carrying them were sunk. People were encouraged to grow their own food instead.

## History Skills

**By the end of this unit the children will:**

- Explain the significance of events and the impact they have had on the modern world.
- Use dates and terms accurately in describing events
- Explore different interpretations of the past through the impact of contrasting sources from the same time EG war propaganda.
- Pursue historically valid enquiries using questions devised as a stimulus.
- Use relevant historical vocabulary to ask and answer questions.
- To use appropriate historical vocabulary to communicate, including: dates, era, continuity, century, legacy, time period, chronology, change

