

History Knowledge Organiser Y5/6 – WWII



Key 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).
Axis	Countries which fought on the German side (including Italy, Japan).
Black Out	System ensuring no lights were visible after dark so that buildings could not be spotted by enemy planes.
Blitz	Series of aerial bombing raids on the UK, mainly cities including Nottingham, London and Birmingham.
Blitzkrieg	Translated as 'lightning strike'. German quick strike invasion of Western Europe.
Enigma	A machine used by the Nazi's to send coded messages.
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place (normally from cities to rural areas).
Fascism	Right wing political view associated with not allowing opposition and total control by a dictator.
Holocaust	Mass murder of Jews and other groups of people by the Nazi's.
Nazi	Member of the fascist German political party which came to power in 1933.
Rationing	The controlled distribution of scarce resources (mainly food and clothing).



Main Participating Countries					
ALLIED POWERS			AXIS POWERS		
Country	Date Joined	Flag	Country	Date Joined	Flag
FRANCE	3 rd Sep, 1939		GERMANY	1 st Sep, 1939	
UK	3 rd Sep, 1939		ITALY	11 th Jun, 1940	
SOVIET UNION	22 nd Jun, 1941		BULGARIA	1 st Mar, 1941	
USA	8 th Dec, 1941		JAPAN	7 th Dec, 1941	

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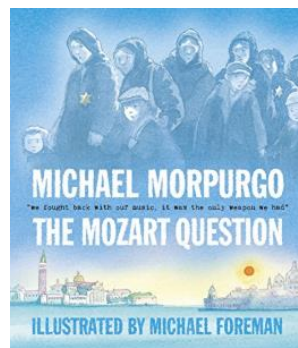
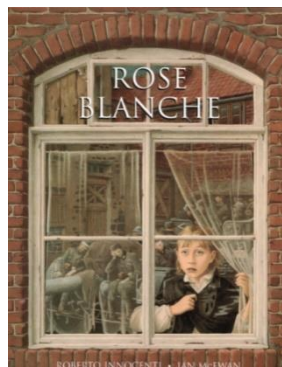


Date	Key events
September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland
September 3, 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany (<i>start of WW2</i>)
January, 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK
May to June, 1940	Dunkirk evacuated and France surrenders to Germany Germany uses blitzkrieg to take over much of Western Europe
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
December 7, 1941	The Japanese attack the US navy in Pearl Harbor. The next day, the USA enters the war fighting with the allies
June 6, 1944	D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans
April 30, 1945	Adolf Hitler commits suicide
May 7, 1945	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day
August 1945	Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan by the US killing approximately 226,000 people
September 2, 1945	Japan surrenders signaling the end of WW2
July, 1954	Rationing ends in the UK

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



Key texts:



Key Knowledge

- To identify the causes of WWII
- To explore the key events and key people of World War II
- To understand why and where children were evacuated to
- To recognise the significance of the Battle of Britain
- To understand the impact of the Blitz
- To know what people ate and why food was rationed in WWII
- To explore what roles men and women fulfilled; in particular the role women played in the war effort
- To understand how life changed during WWII
- To understand what changes took place as a result of the war