Year 6: Europe at War!

BRITISH HISTORICAL CONTEXT























WHO?



Neville Chamberlain

1869 - 1940

British prime minister who declared war on Germany

Adolf Hitler

1889-1945

Austrian born leader of the Nazi party who lead in Germany from 1933-1945



Winston Churchill

1874-1965

British prime minister who succeeded Neville Chamberlain and lead Britain to victory

WAR AT HOME:

- •The UK imported around 1/3 of its food from overseas.
- •German U Boats began to sink ships bringing food to Britain.
- •Some foods and goods began to be rationed such as butter, sugar, meat, tea and clothes - rationing lasted from 1940-1954 (10 years after the end of the war.

The Blitz & Evacuation

- •The Blitz lasted from September 1940-May 1941.
- •Thousands of people were killed in targeted cities and factories.
- •V1 and V2 Bombers used by the Germans were so quiet people didn't hear them coming.
- •Both British and German children were evacuated to the countryside, so they were safer. These were known as evacuees.

KEY VOCABULARY



AIR-RAID: an attack by enemy aircraft, usually dropping bombs. Sirens were used to warn people.



ALLIES: the nations that fought together against Germany in WW2. (Britain, France, Poland,



AXIS: a coalition led by Germany, Italy & Japan that fought against the allied nations.



BARRAGE BALLOON: a large balloon anchored to the ground serving as an obstacle to low flying enemy aircraft



BILLETING OFFICER: a person whose job was to find suitable houses for evacuees.



BLITZKRIEG: an intense military campaign using surprise attacks by the German Luftwaffe.



DEMOCRACY: a system of government where everyone is entitled to a vote or opinion



EVACUEE: a child removed from dangerous towns and cities to the countryside.



NEUTRAL: having no allegiance or support towards any other nation.



PRISONER OF WAR: a person who has been imprisoned by the enemy in war.



PROPAGANDA: information of a biased or misleading nature. used to promote a political cause.



RATION BOOK: an official document entitling the holder to a ration of food or clothes etc.



REPARATION: the act of making amends for a wrong by providing payment



SURRENDER: the act of giving up and relinquishing control over to another power.



TOTALITARIAN: a system of government whereby a dictator makes all decisions

WHAT?

























1918 - JUNE: Germany lost the Great War (now called World War

1919 - JUNE: Germany are forced by America, Britain and France to sign the Treaty of Versailles and pay reparations for the damage caused in WW1 - this made many German people very angry.

1925 - FEBRUARY: Adolf Hitler - who called himself the 'Fuhrer' became the leader of the Nazi (National Socialist Workers' Party). He wanted to make Germany great again and blamed Jews for losing the war and for making Germany weak.

1929 - OCTOBER: The Great Depression (a world-wide financial crisis) caused Germans to have very little money and they struggled to buy food or pay rent.

1933 - JANUARY: Adolf Hitler was elected leader of Germany. His plan was to get rid of all people who were 'different', like gypsies. disabled and gay people. Germany stopped being a democracy and became a totalitarian state lead by a dictator.

1938 - MARCH: Hitler wanted to show strong Germany was by invading other countries and started with Austria and then Czechoslovakia in a bid to 'make Germany great again'.

1939 - SEPTEMBER: Germany invaded Poland despite being warned by countries in Europe that they would have to declare war.

1939 - SEPTEMBER: Neville Chamberlain delivered his speech to the British publish stating that they were now at war with them.

1940 - JUNE: Churchill delivered the now famous 'We shall fight them on the beeches' speech after replacing Neville Chamberlain as

1941 - JUNE: Russia changed allegiance to side with the Allied troops after initially siding with Germany because Germany invaded Russian oil fields.

1941 - DECEMBER: USA was neutral before Japan attacked the US Navy at Pearl Harbour. They then join the Allies.

1944 - JUNE: D-Day Normandy invasions of France by Allied troops were a key turning point that led to the defeat of Germany and the end

1945 - MAY: Germany surrendered signalling the end of World War 2 in Europe. This is known as VE (Victory in Europe Day). In Britain there were street parties. All soldiers and prisoners of war returned home.