

# Boarshaw Community Primary School – History

## Topic: World War II

## Year 6

### Previous learning - What should I already know?

- features of **rural** and **urban** areas in the United Kingdom.
- the chronology of British history. Recap on a timeline.
- characteristics of London.
- the location of the United States of America.
- location of Germany.

### Key facts - What caused WWII?

- After the loss of WWI in 1918, Germany's economy had suffered. In 1934, the people voted for **Hitler**, the leader of the **Nazi** Party to lead them after he had offered them hope.
- Even though he spoke of peace, **Hitler** and the **Nazi** Party **invaded** Austria and Czechoslovakia.
- Two days after the **invasion** of Poland, Britain declared war on **Nazi** Germany

### Key facts- What was the Battle of Britain and the Blitz?

- **The Battle of Britain** and the **Blitz** were **military campaigns** of the Second World War, in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) **defended** the United Kingdom (UK) against large-scale attacks by **Nazi** Germany's air force, the **Luftwaffe**.
1. **Hitler** sent his **Luftwaffe** bombers to attack British ports and RAF airfields.
  2. During the **Blitz** – from September 7th the city of London was heavily bombed.
  3. Night Bombing – with the failure of daylight bombing raids, Hitler began a series of nightly bombing raids on London and other important **industrial** cities.
- People kept safe by using **air raid** sirens, shelters and blackout curtains.



### Key facts - What was the impact of WW2 and the Blitz on Britain?

#### Evacuation:

- Many children living in **urban** areas were moved temporarily from their homes to places considered safer, usually out in the **rural** areas of Britain.
- The British **evacuation** began on Friday 1 September 1939. It was called 'Operation Pied Piper'.
- When the war was over, the Government began to make travel arrangements to return the **evacuees** to their homes.



#### Rationing:

- As part of their **campaign**, **Nazi** Germans tried to cut off supplies of food and other goods coming to Britain by attacking many of the ships that brought food to Britain
- This meant that there was less food for the people - whatever food was grown, produced or managed to enter Britain was **rationed** - people used the Ration Book during this time.

#### Jobs:

- Many men fought in the war and so women were tasked to carry out much of the war work. However, some jobs were protected – men who held these jobs were not called up to join the army (e.g. doctors, miners)
- Jobs undertaken by women during the war included mechanics, ambulance drivers and **air raid wardens**.



### Key Vocabulary

air raid  
ally

allies

atom bomb  
axis

blitz

campaign

Chamberlain  
(Neville)  
Churchill  
(Winston)  
defend  
economy

evacuate  
German  
occupied  
Hitler (Adolf)  
industrial  
industry

invasion  
liberate

Luftwaffe  
military  
Nazi  
Prime Minister  
rationing

rural  
surrenders  
urban  
warden

an attack by **military** aircraft in which bombs are dropped a country's **ally** is another country that has an agreement to support it, especially in war

the **Allies** were the armed forces that fought against Germany and Japan in the Second World War. They included the United Kingdom, the United States of America and France

an extremely destructive type of nuclear bomb

the **Axis** were the armed forces that fought against the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The major **Axis** powers were Germany, Italy and Japan

the heavy bombing of British cities by German aircraft in 1940 and 1941 is referred to as the **Blitz**

a planned set of activities that people carry out over a period of time

**Prime Minister** of the United Kingdom from 1937 to 1940

**Prime Minister** of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945

take action in order to protect something

a country's **economy** is the wealth that it gets from business and industry

to **evacuate** someone means to send them to a place of safety countries that were **occupied** by **Nazi** Germany. Austria, Poland and France were all **German occupied** during WWII

leader of the **Nazi** Party from 1934 to 1945

an **industrial** city or country is one in which industry is important the work and processes involved in collecting raw materials, and making them into products in factories

to try and take over a place by force

to **liberate** a place or the people in it means to free them from the political or **military** control of another country, area, or group of people

the German Air Force

relating to or belonging to the army

a member of the far-right political party in Germany

the leader of the government in some countries

the system of limiting the amount of food, water, petrol, or other substances when there is not enough of them

places that are far away from large towns or cities

stop fighting or resisting someone

belonging to, or relating to, a town or city

a person who is responsible for a particular place or thing

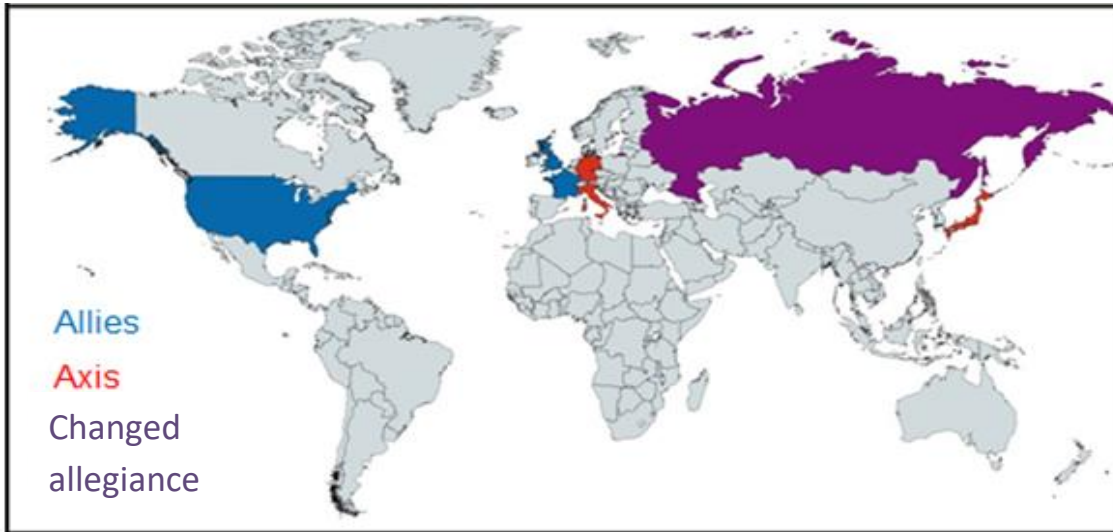
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### Map

### Key Leaders and Places



Chamberlain (Neville)	United Kingdom	Europe	Allies
Churchill (Winston)	United Kingdom	Europe	Allies
Hitler (Adolf)	Germany	Europe	Axis
Mussolini (Benito)	Italy	Europe	Axis
Roosevelt (Franklin)	United States of America	North America	Allies
Stalin (Joseph)	Russia (then known as the USSR or Soviet Union)	Europe / Asia	Axis / Allies

### Allies, Axis and Key Events: What should I know at the end of this unit?

### Historical Skills and Enquiry What should I know at the end of this unit?

- The major **Axis** powers were **Nazi** Germany, Italy and Japan.
- The major **Allied** powers were Britain, France, Russia, and the United States of America.
- The **Axis** had invaded many European countries including Austria, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Poland and France.
- The United States had hoped to remain **neutral** during World War II, however, in 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour in Hawaii, USA, which then meant that the USA turned against the **Axis** and joined the **Allies**.
- In 1942, **Nazi** forces attempted to invade Russia - however, by doing so, lost an **ally**. The **Nazis** were also not prepared for the cold and they suffered heavy defeats.
- In 1944, the British landed on the French beaches of Normandy after a long planning operation to **liberate German-occupied** France. This was known as D-Day.
- The British were successful in **liberating** France. This alongside the disastrous battles in Russia, began the downfall of the **Nazis**.

- How the Nazis were able to **invade** so many countries in such a short amount of time.
- If all German people members of the **Nazi** party and describe what life was like for all groups of people living in Germany under the rule of the **Nazi** party.
- Locate each of the countries that **Nazi** Germany invaded – and explain why it was particularly tricky to invade the United Kingdom.
- Look at different sources that describe the same event (The Battle of Britain). Explain how each source differs and why you think this is.
- Compare the invasions you have learnt about (Roman, Viking, **Nazi**). What is similar? What is different?

