

History: Year 6 - World War 2 Autumn 1 (Behind Enemy Lines)

Why did Britain go to war in 1939?
 How did the war impact on children's lives during and after World War two?
 How did the world change after 1945?



Overview

Adolf Hitler was the German leader. In August 1939, he invaded Czechoslovakia. In September 1939 he then invaded Poland.

Britain, France and Poland had an agreement to support each other and therefore in 1939 Britain and France declared war on Germany.

Throughout the war, German bombers consistently dropped bombs on British cities. As a result many children were evacuated to the countryside to keep them safe.

During WW2, over 3.5 million children were evacuated.

During the war you were required to carry a gas mask, ration book and identity card at all times.

Supply ships were also targeted by German bombers, which resulted in a lack of food products. Rationing was introduced and people were encouraged to 'Dig for Victory'.

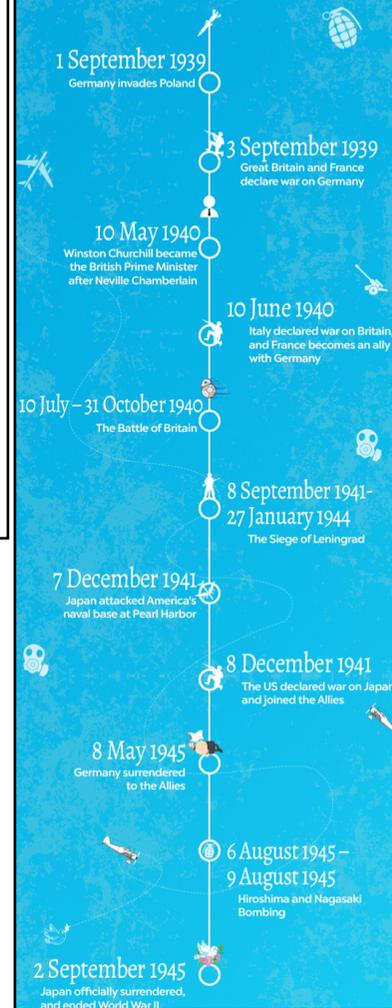
During the war, the role of women changed completely. They were encouraged to work in factories, drive buses and work in engineering. Previously these roles had been restricted to men.

The war ended in 1945.

Key Vocabulary

air raid	an attack by planes dropping bombs
air raid shelter	a building to protect people from bombs.
allies	countries who joined Britain to fight the axis
axis	countries who fought with Germany
Blitz	German air raids.
evacuee	someone who was evacuated.
rationing	controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol etc.

WORLD WAR II Timeline for Kids



Key Events		
1939	1st September	German troops invade Poland
	3rd September	Britain and France declare war on Germany
1940	10th May	The battle of France begins
	26th May	Allied forces are evacuated from Dunkirk
	10th July	The Battle of Britain begins
	7th September	The Blitz begins
1941	22nd June	Germany invades the USSR (Soviet Union)
	7th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US
1943	16th and 17th May	The Dambusters bombing raid is carried out
1944	6th June	The D-Day landings
1945	7th May	Germany surrenders to the Allies
	6th and 9th August	The US drops atomic bombs on two cities in Japan.