



Year 6 History Knowledge Organiser – Second World War (WW2)



Key Vocabulary	
Allies	Countries which fought on the British side (including: USA, Great Britain, France, Russia(1941-1945))
Axis	Countries which fought on the German side (including: Italy, Germany, Japan, Russia (1939-1941))
Blitz	Series of aerial bombing raids on the UK, mainly cities including London, Bristol and Nottingham
Black out	System ensuring no lights were visible after dark so that buildings could not be spotted by enemy planes
Air Raid shelter	A structure used to protect people from bombs dropped by planes: Anderson shelter: made of corrugated iron—usually in the garden Morrison shelter: metal cage used inside the house.
Evacuation	Leaving a place of danger to a safer place. Many children (evacuees) were moved from towns/ cities to rural areas
Fascism	Right wing political view associated with not allowing opposition and total control by a dictator
Nazi	Member of the fascist German party which came into power in 1933—led by Adolf Hitler
Holocaust	The killing of a large number of Jews and other groups of people by the Nazis
Rationing	The control of size and amounts of goods when resources were scarce (mainly food and clothing)
Trenches	A long, narrow ditch used for troops to shelter from enemy fire or attack
VE day	Victory in Europe Day—a day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allies of WW2 of Nazi Germany's surrender

Entertainment and Leisure
Cinema, music halls, dancing, radio (wireless) and board games were all popular forms of entertainment during the war. Most familiar sporting events were stopped when the war broke out.

When and Why The war began in 1939 and was officially over on 8th May 1945. World War II began because Germany invaded Poland and would not withdraw.			
			
Neville Chamberlain	Adolf Hitler	Winston Churchill	King George VI
Prime Minister until 1940 Declared war on Germany	Leader of the Nazi Party	Prime Minister from 1940 Led Britain to Victory	King of the UK 1936—1952

Defence		
Soldiers	Home Guard— (Local Defence Volunteers)	Women at War
When war broke out in September 1939, some men volunteered to join the armed services, but more men were needed .In 1940, two million British men aged between 19 - 27 years, were 'called up', trained for the army and sent to war. Men could also be 'conscripted' into the Royal Navy or the RAF .	Many of the men who joined the Home Guard were those who could not join the regular army. They included farm workers, bakers, teachers, grocers, bank staff and railway workers. Other men who joined were either too young or too old to join the regular army.	Whilst men were fighting women did jobs such as working in munitions, air force and land army. After the war women were pushed out of the workplace and married women were not allowed to work in most jobs. Women continued to work in jobs such as the Land Army.

After the war...
As a result of the war, there were changes to different aspects of life in Britain such as: Immigration , Housing, the start of the NHS and National Insurance.