



Impact of War on our Local Area Knowledge Organiser

In this topic we will be learning about World War 2 especially how it impacted on Manchester. World War 2 involved many countries around the world. This conflict resulted in the deaths of millions of people. The Nazi's came to power in Germany under Adolf Hitler and started persecuting many minorities, for example the Jewish population. Hitler wanted to make Germany bigger and more powerful and other countries. Britain, France and Russia didn't like this as they felt it was dangerous. This resulted in war breaking out. We will also be comparing WW2 to the first world war looking at the key similarities and differences.



Key Timeline

Sept 1st 1939	Germany invades Poland
Sept 3rd 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
May 30th 1940	Winston Churchill becomes British Prime Minister.
10th July 1940	Germany launches an air attack on Britain known as the Battle of Britain.
7th December 1941	The Japanese attack the US Navy at Pearl Harbour. The next day the USA joins the war on the side of the allies.
June 6th 1941	D –Day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans
Dec. 16th 1941	The Germans launch a large attack in the Battle of the Bulge. They lose to the allies sealing the fate of the German army.
April 30th 1941	Adolf Hitler commits suicide
May 7th 1941	Germany surrenders to the allies.

Key Vocabulary

Air Raid	An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.
Anderson Shelter	A small shelter made from corrugated steel to protect people from bombs. Usually found in the garden.
Allies	Countries (including Britain, France the Soviet Union and the USA) who joined forces to fight.
Axis Alliance	Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that were allies in WW2.
Blackout	Wartime ban on street lights and other lights at night.
Blitz	German air raids from the German word 'blitzkrieg' which means 'lightening war.'
Concentration Camp	Prison where Jews and other prisoners were kept by the Nazis.
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safe space.
Gas Masks	Face mask to protect people against poison gas.
Holocaust	Mass murder of Jews and other people by the Nazis.
Propaganda	Controlling news media to show your side in the best way.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes petrol and other products.

Key World War 2 Facts

- World War 2 was a battle between two groups of countries.
- Before World War 2 began, Germany was ruled by a man named Adolf Hitler.
- During the course of the war, German forces advanced through Europe
- Millions of Germans were imprisoned and killed because they didn't fit the image of the 'perfect' German
- Around the same time that Germany fought for power in Europe, Japan wanted to control Asia and the Pacific.
- Some countries remained neutral during World War 2.
- Manchester was targeted during the Blitz due to its industrial prominence.

