



Britain at War

Why was WW2 known as the people's war?



Key Vocabulary

Allies	Countries which fought on the British side (including: USA, Great Britain, France, Russia (1941-1945))
Propaganda	Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place
Rationing	The controlled distribution of scarce resources
Air raid shelter	A building to protect people from bombs dropped by planes
Nazi	Member of the fascist German political party which came to power in 1933
Blitz	Series of aerial bombing raids on the UK, mainly cities including London, Bristol and Nottingham
Holocaust	Mass murder of Jews and other groups of people by the Nazis

Timeline of Key Events

September 1 st 1939	Germany invades Poland
September 3rd 1939	Britain and France declare war on Germany
January 1940	Rationing introduced across the UK
May - June 1940	Dunkirk evacuated and France surrenders to Germany. Germany uses blitzkrieg to take over much of Western Europe
July 1940	Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain (The Battle of Britain and the Blitz)
June 6th 1944	D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans
April 30th 1945	Adolf Hitler commits suicide
May 7th	Germany surrenders & victory in Europe is declared the next day

British Spitfire Planes



The leader of Germany, Adolf Hitler, had plans to take over other countries. In March 1938, Germany invaded and annexed Austria, which made other countries worried. On 29th September 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders signed a treaty called the Munich Agreement. This allowed Hitler to annex the Sudetenland (an area of Czechoslovakia) if he agreed not to invade anywhere else. However, in August 1939, Hitler broke the agreement and invaded the rest of Czechoslovakia, followed by Poland on 1st September. Britain, France and Poland had made a pact to support each other, so Britain and France declared war on Germany.

By the end of this unit we will be able to:

- begin to understand the causes of WW2 through dictatorships in Europe
- understand why rationing was introduced and that it was a major change for the people of Britain.
- learn about technology used in World War 2
- understand the role of propaganda in war
- understand the impact WW2 has had on our lives today

Significant Individuals

Winston Churchill	Adolf Hitler	F. Roosevelt	Joseph Goebbels

The German Luftwaffe

