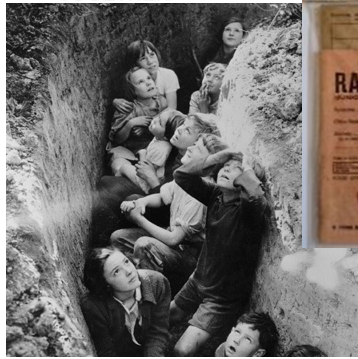


Y6 - Life on the Home Front in WWII

Including a local history study of Liverpool



Evacuation of 1940 During WWII, over 3.5 million children, along with some of their teachers, mother with very young children, pregnant women and people with disabilities were evacuated from the cities to the countryside, where it was believed they would be safer from the bombing. All evacuees had to take with them their gas masks, ration book and identity card. When they reached their destination, a billeting officer would arrange a host family for them. Evacuation happened in waves, beginning on 1st September 1939. Other waves occurred at the start of the Battle of Britain and at the start of the Blitz, which greatly impacted Liverpool. This would be a war in the air and there would be vastly more civilian damage than in the First World War so evacuations was necessary.

Adversaries WWII



How did the Second World War continue?

The bombing of British cities continued for some time. Still, due to the huge defeat at the Battle of Britain, the German Luftwaffe would never have the same military power it had before, so it was minimal in comparison.

On June 6th, 1944, American, Canadian and British troops landed on the beaches of Normandy and stormed the German defences. Within months, Paris was liberated, and the allies continued their march towards Berlin.

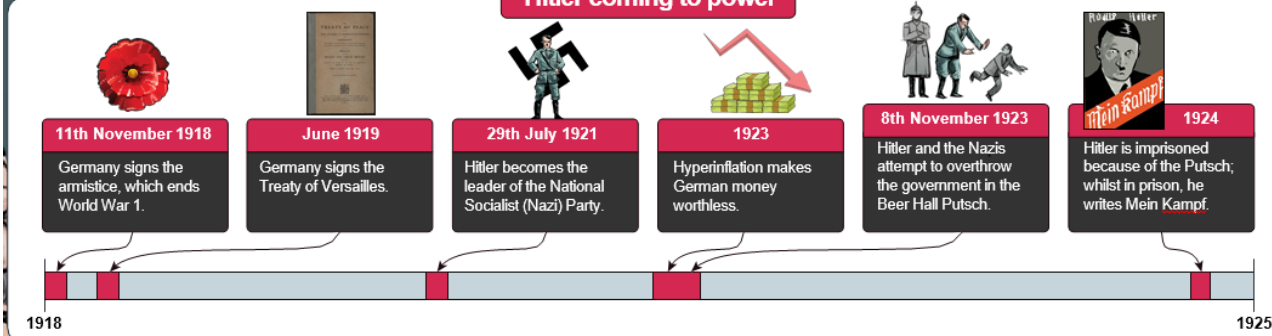
With the Soviets marching from the east and the Allies marching from the west, it was not long until the battle reached Berlin.

Finally, on May 8th, 1945, news reached the world that Berlin had fallen and the Nazi Government had signed a peace treaty. Hitler was dead. The war was over.

Europe in 1937

In the late 1930s, dictators and authoritarian monarchies ruled much of Europe. This made democracies like Britain and France extremely nervous - they hoped that the League of Nations and the atrocities of World War I would steer Europe away from war, but this could not be guaranteed with the unfolding political powers across the continent.

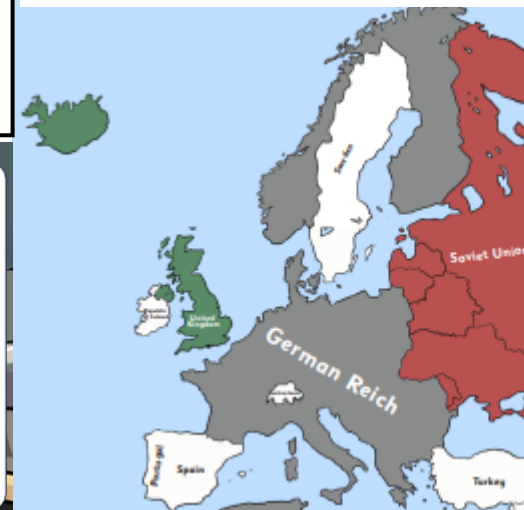
Hitler coming to power



Vocabulary

- Alliance**— An agreement establishing an association between groups
- Anti-Semitism**—Hostility toward Jews or discrimination against them as a group
- Appeasement**—This was the policy of many countries when Hitler first started to take over Austria and parts of Czechoslovakia. They gave in to Hitler's demands in order to avoid going to war. When Hitler invaded Poland, they realized that appeasement would not work and France and Great Britain declared war on Germany.
- Blitz**—A severe or sudden attack; the German air raids on Britain in 1940 - 41
- Censorship**—Banning or deleting any information of value to the enemy
- Evacuation**—The process of sending young people to live with host families during war time
- Fascism**— A type of government ruled by a dictator. Germany with Hitler and Italy with Mussolini were fascist governments.
- Home Front**— The civilian population and activities whose armed forces are involved in war abroad.
- Moral**— Standards and principles of right and wrong behaviour
- Negotiation**— Discussions aimed at reaching an agreement.
- Propaganda**—Spreading a particular message in order to influence public opinion
- Rationing**— Allowing each person to have a limited amount of certain foods or commodities that are in short supply
- Refugee**— A person forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution or natural disasters.
- Reparations**—Compensation exacted from a defeated nation by the victors
- Segregation**— Setting someone or something apart from others.
- Totalitarianism**— The principle of unrestricted power in government .

Artist's impression showing German-occupied lands in May 1941.



Britain
1250 aircraft destroyed
544 pilots killed

Germany
1700 aircraft destroyed
2662 pilots killed

Statistics showing the aircraft and personnel loss during the Battle of Britain.

