

World War 2: KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
Allies	Countries which fought on the British side including France, Russia and USA
Axis	Countries which fought on the German side including Italy, Germany and Japan
neutral	Countries which have chosen not to take part in a war and have not chosen a side
invasion	Taking over a country or territory by force
occupation	When a country or territory has been taken over and the invading force are in control
government	A group of people responsible for controlling and leading a country
nationalism	When decisions are made for an individual country above others
territory	An area of land or sea controlled by a country
anti-semitism	A hatred towards Jewish people and their religion
republic	It is a form of government where the public vote and choose their leaders
Evacuee	Someone who was evacuated or moved from a danger area to somewhere safer
raid	An attack on a place, sometimes by air E.g. The Blitz
ration	Shortages of goods meant people were only allowed a certain amount



Sticky Knowledge about World War 2 September 1939 – August 1945

What led to the start of WW2?

- The Treaty of Versailles
- Hitler coming into power in Germany (National Socialist/Nazi Party)
- Alliances and agreements
- Invasion of Poland

Great Britain: Chamberlain, Churchill

United States: Roosevelt, Truman

Soviet Union: Stalin

Germany: Hitler

Italy: Mussolini

Japan: Tojo

Key events:

- **The Battle of Britain** – British RAF versus German Luftwaffe
- **The Blitz** – bombing of key cities in Britain by the Luftwaffe
- **The evacuation of Dunkirk** – the biggest rescue mission in history

The lives of civilians were changed in many ways:

- **evacuation** – from urban to rural areas due to bombing
- **the roles of women** – Home Front, Land Army, replace male workforce
- **rationing** – due to shortages of goods, avoiding waste, home-grown
- **propaganda** – advertising from the government to work together

Major victories which led to the end of the war

- **1941 Hitler betrays Stalin** – agreement broken with the Soviet Union
- **1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbour** – surprise aerial attack on the USA
- **1943 Britain and USA invade Italy** – Mussolini removed from power
- **1944 D-Day** – Allied invasion of German-occupied France.

Great Britain was rebuilt after the end of the war in different ways.

- **Rebuilding of infrastructure** – 'Windrush' migrants helped rebuild
- **Continuation of rationing** – there was still a shortage of goods post-WW2
- **National Health Service established** – hospitals were taken control of by the government during the war. This was so popular and successful it continued under the name NHS.

