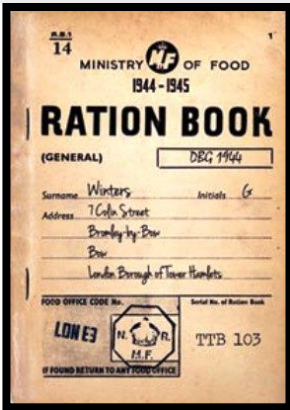
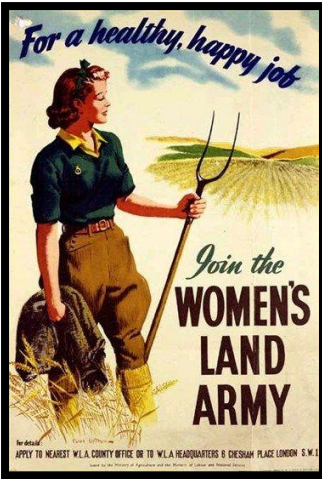


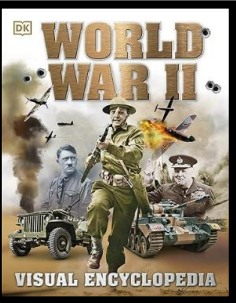
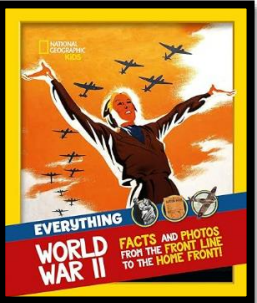
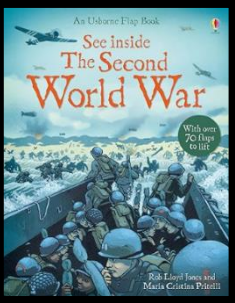
History – World War Two

Air raid	Air raid An attack by enemy planes dropping bombs.
Allies	Allies Countries (including Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA) who fought the Axis Powers.
Axis	Axis Germany, Japan, Italy and other countries that fought against the Allies.
Blackout	Blackout A wartime ban on streetlights and other lights at night, to reduce the risk of bombing by enemy planes.
Blitz	A prolonged period of German air raids on Britain. From the German ‘blitzkrieg’ which means ‘lightning war’.
Evacuation	Evacuation Moving people from dangerous areas to safer places e.g. from big cities to the countryside to avoid bombing.
Holocaust	Holocaust The mass murder of around six million Jewish people by the Nazis, as well as other persecuted groups
Invasion	When an army or country uses force to enter and take control of another country or area.
Occupied	Taken over by enemy forces
Nazi	Short for National Socialist Party (in Germany) and the name given to supporters of Hitler.
Propaganda	Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.
Rationing	Controlling the supply of food, clothes, petrol and other products to avoid or reduce shortages.
Anti-Semitism	Hostility towards or discrimination against Jewish people.



Timeline of World War Two

- 1939:** Germany invades Poland, triggering the outbreak of World War Two.
- 1940:** The Dunkirk evacuation, where British and Allied forces were rescued from the beaches of Dunkirk, France.
- 1940:** The Battle of Britain takes place, with the Royal Air Force successfully defending against German air attacks.
- 1940-1941:** The Blitz begins, with German bombing raids targeting British cities.
- 1941:** Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, leading to the United States entering the war.
- 1944:** D-Day, the Allied invasion of Normandy, launches the liberation of Western Europe.
- 1945:** Germany surrenders, and the war in Europe ends.
- 1945:** Japan surrenders after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, officially ending World War Two.



Want to find out more?



How Did World War II Start?

How Did World War II Start? 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.

The roles of Women

Before the war, most women stayed at home and didn't go out to work. Those who did work were paid less than men and were generally restricted to 'women's jobs', such as nursing or working as a shop assistant. However, when men were called up for active service, women were needed to do jobs such as making weapons, driving buses and trains or working in engineering or shipbuilding. Some joined the armed forces themselves. After the war, many women lost their jobs. However, their experiences led them to campaign for equal working rights and pay so that they could carry on leading more independent lives

Evacuation

During World War II, over 3.5 million children, along with some of their teachers and helpers, mothers 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 bombing. All evacuees had to take their gas mask, 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.

Rationing

Supply ships were targeted by German bombers and it was necessary to conserve as much food as possible. Rationing meant that each person was only allowed a fixed amount of foods. Ration books were issued, with coupons that showed people how much of each item they were allowed. Shopkeepers would remove or stamp the coupons when they were used. People were also encouraged to 'Dig for Victory' and grow as much of their own food as possible. Petrol, soap, clothing and timber were also in short supply. Clothing ration books were issued and people were encouraged to 'make do and mend'.

As prime minister (1940–45) during most of World War II, **Winston Churchill** rallied the British people and led the country from the brink of defeat to victory.



Adolf Hitler initiated World War II in Europe by invading Poland on 1 September 1939. He was closely involved in military operations throughout the war and was responsible for the Holocaust.

