

West Kirby Primary School

What was life like during the War?



Life During World War II

World War 2 took place between 1939 and 1945.

It was a battle between two groups of countries: the 'Allies' and the 'Axis'.

Before WW2 began, Germany was ruled by a man called Adolf Hitler. He wanted Germany to rule Europe.

During the course of the War, German troops advanced through Europe.

Millions of Germans were imprisoned or killed because they didn't fit Hitler's image of the 'perfect' German.

The group most heavily targeted by the Nazi's were the Jews.

The USA didn't join the war until 1941, when Japan attacked them at Pearl Harbour.

Some countries remained 'neutral' in WWII.

Around 64 million people died in WWII.

The diary of a young Jewish girl called Anne Frank was published after the war. The diary has sold millions of copies all over the world. Her Father hoped the diary would educate readers about the dangers of hatred against others.

To ensure their safety, many children in Britain were 'evacuated' to the countryside.

Once Britain was at war, food became much more difficult to get hold of. 'Rationing' started in 1940, which meant each person could only buy a certain amount of food each week.

Year 3 and 4 (Autumn 1)

Vocabulary Dozen

Nazi	The Nazi party ruled Germany at the time of the war. Under Hitler's leadership, they started the war.
Invade	To enter, as an enemy.
Conscription	Compulsory enrolment for military service.
Troops	A group of soldiers.
Allied Powers	An alliance of nations against the Axis Powers.
Axis Powers	A group of nations led by Germany, Italy and Japan. They opposed the Allied Powers.
Home front	All of the actions to help with the war effort by people back in Britain.
Anderson Shelter	A shelter, half buried in the ground, to protect people from bomb blasts.
Evacuee	A person who has been moved from a dangerous place.
Ration	A fixed share, or portion.
Salvage	The saving or rescuing of something from destruction or waste.
Surrender	The act of giving up.

Ideas to think about...

What must life have been like for the groups of people in Germany who were being persecuted by the Nazis?

What must life have been like for children who were evacuated?

What must life have been like for the soldiers?

What must life have been like for people who were not evacuated? How did the people who weren't evacuated try to stay safe?