

Key vocabulary

Allies/Allied Powers	A group of nations that fought against the Axis countries in World War II (United Kingdom, United States and Soviet Union).
Axis	The nations (Germany, Italy, Japan) that fought in World War II against the Allies.
Blitz	Eight months of bombing raids on British cities by Germany, launched in 1940, during WWII.
Evacuees/evacuation	Children who were temporarily moved from cities to rural areas for their safety. The process was called evacuation.
Billeting officer	The people who assigned the children to their new homes.
Air raid siren	Loud noises rising and falling signalled a warning of an imminent air raid. A loud continuous sound indicated the raid was over.
air raid	An attack by military aircraft in which bombs were dropped.
gas mask	Everyone had to carry gas masks in boxes and wear them to protect themselves from gas bombs dropped during raids.
Anderson shelter	Shelters to escape to during an air raid. They were half buried in the ground with earth piled on top of them to protect them from bomb blasts.
Morrison shelter	For people without gardens, these shelters (made from heavy steel) were used to shelter underneath during an air raid.
blackout	A period of darkness enforced as protection against enemy attack. People had to cover their windows and doors at night (before sunset) with heavy blackout curtains, paint or cardboard.
Propaganda posters	A way of spreading ideas and influencing people.

Key Skills:

Note connections, contrasts and trends over time, linking different periods of history.
 Tell clear narratives about life in a specific period studied.
 Independently list reasons why events took place and the effects of them on people and places.
 Suggest plausible reasons for how/why aspects of the past have been represented and interpreted in different ways.
 Question the reliability of sources of evidence.
 Give valid reasons for the different interpretations of a specific event.
 Gather knowledge from several sources to answer questions.
 Accept and reject sources based on valid criteria when carrying out specific enquiries.



Personal Enquiry:
 Aspect of life from WWII using primary and secondary sources.

Final outcome:
 Telling Tales – the children’s stories of WWII.

From understanding the context of World War II, we look at the impact on the people of Britain and in particular the children – how their lives changed due to blackouts, bombing raids and evacuation.

Key dates:

The first official evacuations began on September 1, 1939, two days before the declaration of war.

From June 13 to June 18, 1940, around 100,000 children were evacuated (in many cases re-evacuated).

When the Blitz began, on 7 September 1940, children who had returned home or had not been evacuated were evacuated.

From June 1944, the Germans attacked again by firing V1 rockets on Britain, followed later by V2 rockets. 1,000,000 women, children, elderly and disabled people were evacuated from London.

Sequence of Learning:

WWII – who, when and why

The Blitz and the effects on the nation

The impact of evacuation on family life

Operation Pied Piper

Propaganda posters

WWII personal enquiry