World War 2: KS2 Knowledge Mat

axis	Countries which fought on the German side including Italy, Germany and Japan.
Allies	Countries which fought on the British side (including: USA, Great Britain, France and Russia.
Nazi	Member of the German political group which came to power in 1933.
evacuation	Organised movement of children and the vulnerable from towns and cities to safe zones.
evacuee	Someone who was evacuated, moved from a danger area to a safer place.
Blitz	A series of bombing raids on the UK.
propaganda	Controlling news media (such as radio) to depict the war effort .
Holocaust	Murder of Jews and other groups of people by the Nazis.
Luftwaffe	The German Airforce.
RAF	The Royal Airforce (British).
refugees	A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war.
Kindertransport	Transport arranged for Jewish children to flee German occupied countries.





War Timeline	
1st September 1939	In 1933, Adolf Hitler rose to power as the political leader of Germany. Germany invades Poland. Britain insists Germany withdraw troops from Poland. The Germans refuse. Britain declares war on 3rd Sep 1939. Britain initially responded with bombing raids over Germany.
1939 Onwards	Children were evacuated from cities expected to be bombed as enemy planes targeted factories *etc.* Children were evacuated to the countryside.
10th May 1940	Chamberlain resigned and Winston Churchill was chosen to be his successor as Prime Minister on May 10, 1940.
June 1940	Evacuation of Dunkirk. Large numbers of troops were surrounded by Germans at the French coastal town of Dunkirk. 338, 226 were saved by a fleet of 800 boats. This is known as the 'Miracle of Dunkirk'.
6th June 1944	D-Day. The Normandy landings were a series of landing operations by the Allies to claim Europe. It was the largest seaborne operation in history.
7th May 1945	Germany surrenders: The Allies had forced the surrender of Axis troops in Europe. On 7th May 1945 Germany surrender to the Allies – the end of war in Europe.
8th May 1945	VE Day. The VE in VE Day stands for Victory in Europe. It was the public holiday of 8th May 1945 to mark the defeat of Germany by the Allied forces in World War 2.
6th August 1945	Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Japan refused to surrender, threatening to fight on. The US considered invasion but this would have led to deaths of 500,000. On the 9th Aug, the US dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki.
15th August 1945	End of WW2 . The surrender of Japan was announced on August 15th 1945.

Sticky Knowledge

- ❑ Know the reasons why Britain had to go to war in 1939
- ❑ Know why it was necessary for children to be evacuated
- ❑ Understand the reasons why Britain was able to stand firm against the German threat.
- ❑ Recognise how people managed to carry on their normal lives during the war and look at sources that show how we know this.
- ❑ Understand why it is so difficult to be sure what life on the Home Front was really like.
- ❑ Know what VE day was and how it was celebrated in Britain,
- ❑ Describe how individual families were affected by the war.

Recommended reads:

Carrie's War, Our Castle by the Sea, Letters from the Lighthouse





