

Our REAL Project

Project Name

World War Two

Project Summary

An exploration of life in Britain during World War Two and the strategy involved in the war effort. As well as looking at World War Two from different perspectives and points of view.

Essential Question

How did Britain withstand World War Two?

How are your children meeting the four components of effective projects?

Rigorous

How will students show in depth subject knowledge?

Through challenge based sessions promoting an in depth look at World War Two. The children will have many real-life experiences and scenarios, including a focus on the Home Front and propaganda. They will identify and understand why people in the past acted as they did and will be able to describe historical events in relation to their cause and effect. Researching primary and secondary sources of information and using picture books and other fictional texts. They will think carefully about the validity of information and understanding the power of propaganda and understand that art and music are key to having a rounded understanding of World War Two.

Engaging

How will students engage with the learning?

Children will be introduced to the topic with an immersive learning environment and their own characters to take part in a fitness style test for conscription. They will use historical sources, both primary and secondary, such as artwork, photographs, sound clips and speeches from leading figures throughout their learning. The children will create their own propaganda campaign and look at the strategic side of the D-Day Landings, as well as defending the country against land and sea attacks.

Authentic

What will our authentic audience be?

Parents and families will be invited in to the exhibition of the children's learning, alongside our performance. Children will have the opportunity to present their learning within school to their peers.

Learning

How will students show their learning of key skills in this project?

Through purposeful weekly outcomes, addressing the key questions, which have been critiqued and improved throughout the project. As well as diary writing, reading maps, code breaking, war art, creating propaganda, learning World War Two songs and performing a play set during wartime in Britain. Research into the children's own family history during World War Two.

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Project Overview

During this term the children will be fully immersed in hands-on practical learning opportunities to develop an awareness and understanding of what life in Britain was like during World War Two. As each week progresses the children will develop a detailed understanding of key events during World War Two, beginning with looking at life in Germany before the war broke out and the rise of Hitler's power. We will then move to a British perspective and study the power of propaganda during the Blitz. We will learn what life was like working on the Home Front and break codes to help the war effort. To improve our map skills, we will also imagine we are Strategic Commanders readying ourselves for the D-Day Landings. We will also research our own family history during World War Two. A trip to The National Holocaust Centre and Museum will provide sensitive, further depth learning about the Holocaust, complimented by the study of picture and fiction books on the subject to gain a child's perspective.

Please note this is an OUTLINE PLAN which may change depending on the children's ideas and interests.

Project Timeline

- Week 1 - Conscription: are you with us in National Service?
- Week 2/3 - Lightning War: what was the Blitz?
- Week 4 - Bletchley Park Code Breakers: can you crack it?
- Week 5/6 - Home Front: what was done to make an invasion of Britain difficult?
- Week 7/8 - Propaganda and the War Artists' Advisory Committee: how did the government attempt to boost morale?
- Week 9/10 - D-Day Landings: what was the invasion strategy?
- Week 11/12 - Holocaust: why are questions of identity and consequences of choice important?

Curriculum links and focus

- Maths - code breaking (number sequences, four operations, using and applying known concepts to reason and problem solve); coordinates; geometry; measurement.
- English - diary writing, explanation and discussion texts, persuasive language.
- History - what life was like in Britain and Germany during the war years; understanding events from different perspectives; understanding the reasons for events in World War Two.
- Geography - map skills; knowledge of Europe.
- Science - classifying living things; changes in the human body.
- Art - finding out about war artists; creating wartime artwork and propaganda posters; knitting.
- DT - building model shelters.
- Music - 1940s music; singing.
- RE - symbols and worships in a mosque and cathedral.
- PE - rounders; 1940s dance.
- PSHE - positive contribution; being healthy.
- ICT - digital literacy creating and editing films.