**MANCHESTER ROAD PRIMARY ACADEMY - HISTORY**

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| **Unit: The Battle of Britain** | **Year 6**  | **Strand: Aspects of British history beyond 1066** |

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| **What will be taught through the unit:*** **That the battle of Britain was a significant turning point in the history of Great Britain.**
* **That we know lots of facts about this period in time due to an abundance of evidence sources.**
* **That Britain has been invaded many times over hundreds of years – This was the last time.**
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| Facts about World War II and the battle of Britain. | * **It began on 3rd September 1939 when Germany invaded Poland. Hitler said it was to give the German people more living space.**
* **The German army had already invaded many countries in Europe, and the only country left was Britain.**
* **In order to defeat the armed forces in Britain, Germany launched an attack on its air forces in the hope that it would make the defences weaker.**
* **This attack became known as the Battle of Britain and lasted from 10th July 1940 until 31st October 1940**
* **The British airforce are called the RAF and the German airforce are called the Luftwaffe.**
* **Both air forces had different strategies to try and win the battle. The British forces were outnumbered by the German forces.**
* **The night bombings made on Britain during this time overlapped with a period of time known as the blitz (7/9/40 – 11/5/41). The Germans do not agree with this – they believe it was one campaign lasting the whole period.**
* **Hitler was convinced they would win this battle, and that Britain would give up – or surrender. It is regarded as a major turning point in the war – and in Britain’s history.**
* **The battle of Britain takes its name from the speech given in the house of commons by Winston Churchill called ‘This was their finest hour’**
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| Evacuation | * The evacuation of children, old people pregnant women, women with children under 5 and some of those who were disabled began.
* They were evacuated to avoid being harmed in the battles which were mainly in cities.
* Many went to stay in the countryside with relatives or friends. Some went to stay with strangers.
* Billeting officers were responsible for homing evacuees. People who took evacuees were paid by the government.
* Over 3.5 million people were evacuated during WW2.
* Some wealthy people evacuated themselves to other countries such as New Zealand, Canada and South Africa.
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**Historical Enquiry:**

* **Sources of evidence around events in the war differ significantly depending on what sources are used.**
* **The impact of the war is very much reported from the British point of view – what was the impact on the Germany people and society?**
* **What impact did the press have on the people’s attitudes towards the war?**
* **What things have been put in place around the world since WW2 to ensure it doesn’t happen again?**



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| The Holocaust | * Hitler believed that everyone in Germany should look and be a certain way. If they did not fit this, he ordered them to be killed.
* During the Holocaust, over 6 million Jewish people were killed.
* The diary of Anne Frank is a significant piece of literature which gives an insight into what life was like for the Jewish people living in German – occupied countries.
* The evidence that the holocaust happened is clear – but some people still deny it ever happened.
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| Rationing | * Rationing was introduced because the supply of food from other countries was cut off due to ships being destroyed and shipping channels being blocked.
* Hitler thought this was a way of making the people of Britain weak.
* There were different types of rationing books, which limited certain foods – sugar, dairy products, eggs, cereals and meat.
* Rationing lasted for 14 years and ended in 1954.
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| The end of the war.D - Day | * 6th June 1944 – the Normandy landings took place, which signified a turning point in the allies battle against the axis powers.
* The mission was code named operation overlord.
* On the first day 150,000 troops landed in France. By June 17th, there were half a million.
* They pushed back the German forces out of France.
* On 8th May 1945, Germany surrendered unconditionally. The war still continued in Japan until Nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 15th August 1945.
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Posters about evacuation

**People to study:**

Winston Chrchill

Adolf Hitler

Franklin D Roosevelt

Neville Chamberlain

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| **Vocabulary:** |  |
| Axis powers | The countries who fought against the Allies – they wanted more land and power. |
| Allies powers | The countries who fought against the Axis. |
| Blitz | The bombing attacks in GB by the Germans |
| Evacuee | A person sent to the countryside for safety |
| Rationing | Food and other supplies that were rationed meaning you could only have a certain amount using tokens in a ration book. |
| Refugee | Men, women and children who were forced from their homes in German territory. |
| Invasion | Forcefully taking over another country. |
| Chancellor | The person in charge |
| Homeguard | The volunteers who defended the five thousand miles of British coastline. |
| The holocaust  | The persecution and murder of 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime. |

**Trips/ Visits & Useful Websites:**

<https://www.ducksters.com/history/world_war_ii/battle_of_britain.php>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/evacuation1.html#2>

**Timeline of Significant Events:**

