

Holmer C of E Academy

Topic: The Battle of Britain	Year:6	Strand: British History beyond 1066
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What should I already know?

- ~ Features of rural and urban areas in the United Kingdom.
- ~ The chronology of British history.
- ~ Characteristics of London.
- ~ The location of Germany in the continent of Europe.

Historical skills and enquiry

C Uses timelines to place events from the Battle of Britain placing them in chronological order.

C Uses these key periods as reference points: BC, AD Romans, Anglo-Saxons, Victorians and Today.

KU Identifies and describes changes, contrasts, trends and connections over time.

KU Describe how some changes affect life today.

KU Describes similarities and differences between some people, events and objects studied.

KU Gives own reasons why changes may have occurred, backed up with evidence, and what caused them

HI Suggests accurate and plausible reasons for how/why aspects of the past have been represented and interpreted in different ways.

HI Knows and understands that some evidence is propaganda, opinion or misinformation and that this affects interpretations of history

HE Selects the most appropriate source of evidence for particular tasks.

HE Asks and answers historically valid questions.

HE Evaluates the usefulness and accurateness of different sources of evidence.

HE Forms own opinions about historical events from a range of sources.

OC Presents information in an organised and clearly structured way most appropriate for the task (e.g. explanation, tables, charts, diagrams)

What will I find out by the end of the unit?

What caused the World War II?

After the loss of WWI in 1918, Germany's economy had suffered. In 1934, the people voted for Hitler, the leader of the Nazi Party to lead them after he had offered them hope.

Even though he spoke of peace, Hitler and the Nazi Party invaded

Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Two days after the invasion of Poland, Britain declared war on Nazi Germany.

What was the Battle of Britain and the Blitz?

The Battle of Britain and the Blitz were military campaigns of the Second World War, in which the Royal Air Force (RAF) defended the United Kingdom (UK) against large-scale attacks by Nazi Germany's air force, the Luftwaffe.

Hitler sent his Luftwaffe bombers to attack British ports and RAF airfields.

During the Blitz – From September 7th 1940 the city of London was heavily bombed.

Night Bombing – With the failure of daylight bombing raids Hitler began a series of nightly bombing raids on London and other important industrial cities.

People kept safe by using air raid sirens, shelters and blackout curtains.

Vocabulary

Blitzkrieg	The Blitz was a German bombing campaign against the United Kingdom, in 1940 and 1941, during the Second World War. The term was first used by the British press and originated from the term <i>Blitzkrieg</i> ,
Evacuation	Evacuation is the process of moving people away from an area where they are in danger to a safer area. People may be evacuated for many reasons, including wars.
Axis	The Axis was a group of countries in WW2 who teamed up together to fight the allies. It comprised of Nazi Germany, Italy and Japan.
Allies	The Allies was a group of countries in WW2 who teamed up together to fight the allies. It comprised of the UK, the USA and France.
Propaganda	Propaganda , dissemination of information—facts, arguments, rumours, half-truths, or lies—to influence public opinion.
Air Raid	An air raid is an intense bombing campaign by planes, attacking key areas on the ground.

Important People and Forces

Adolf Hitler

(1889-1945) was a German politician who was the leader of the Nazi party, Chancellor of Germany from 1933-1945, and the Führer of Germany from 1934-1945. Hitler's Germany invaded Poland in Sep 1939 to start the war. In 1940, at the start of the Battle of Britain, Hitler's Nazis and the Axis powers, were winning the war, having just conquered France. After attempting to structure a peace deal with Britain (and failing) Hitler decided to invade Britain. However, he knew that Britain's powerful air force would sink the boats carrying his men across the channel. Therefore, he hoped to defeat the Royal Air Force by bombing their bases and shooting them down. However, the RAF proved to be a formidable opponent, and Hitler was left disappointed.



Sir Winston Churchill



(1874-1965) was a British politician who served as the Prime Minister between 1940 and 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955. He took over after a disastrous start to the war in which Nazi Germany conquered much of Europe. He did his best to rally the nation in defiance of Adolf Hitler, possessed excellent military knowledge and forged crucial alliances with both the USA and Russia. Churchill is often characterised for his extraordinary leadership throughout World War II – he was bold, brave, and tireless in his resolve to take on the might of Nazi Germany, refusing to surrender or make peace. As the battle loomed, he made one of his most famous speeches ('Finest Hour') and emboldened them once more with his 'The Few' speech in August 1940.

Royal Air Force



The Royal Air Force, (shortened to the RAF) is the air force of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In the Battle of Britain the RAF was the main opponent of the Luftwaffe. The RAF fighter pilots in the Battle of Britain became known as 'The Few', taken from Winston Churchill's phrase 'Never...was so much owed by so many to so few.' It is thought that British RAF crew numbered 2,353 of the total 3,000 men who fought in the battle on the side of the allies. In total, 407 lost their lives.

Luftwaffe



The Luftwaffe was the German aerial warfare branch in World War II. The Luftwaffe was widely feared, and had been vital as the Germans had invaded and defeated Poland and western mainland Europe. In the Battle of Britain, despite causing severe damage to Britain's RAF (and to towns and cities across the country), the Luftwaffe was unable to destroy the British aerial forces. The Luftwaffe was later defeated by Allied forces, and was disbanded after the war was lost.

Battle of Britain Timeline

10th July, 1940 – The Germans begin dive bombing cargo ships in the Channel. The battle begins.

16th July – Hitler declared 'Operation Sea Lion.' He wanted the RAF to be so destroyed that they couldn't stop invading troops.

13th August – Bombing of Royal Air Force bases begins.

10th August – Called 'The Hardest Day.' The Royal Air Force suffered lots of losses.

19th August – The Germans launched an intensive period of bombing of British towns and cities.

15th September – Known as 'Battle of Britain' day. Luftwaffe lost many planes attempting to attack London.

31st October – The Germans suffered heavy losses and ended their attempts –