

History

World War II

Sir Neville Chamberlain announced that Great Britain were at **war** with Germany on 3rd September 1939.

Great Britain went to war with Germany only after Hitler refused to agree to a peaceful resolution with Poland.

World War II lasted from 1939 to 1945.

During this time, many children were **evacuated** out of cities to be looked after by families living in the countryside as these areas were believed to be safer.

Rationing was introduced as foods were scarce.

While many countries were involved in the war, they each took sides – either with the **Allies**, or the **Axis**

The main **Axis** countries were Germany, Italy and Japan.

The main **Allied** countries were Great Britain, the United States, France and the Soviet Union.

Prime Ministers during World War II - **Neville Chamberlain**, then **Winston Churchill**.

The **Battle of Britain**, between the German **Luftwaffe** and the **Royal Air Force**, was the first ever battle to be fought only in the air. It was made up of lots of air battles that lasted from 10 July to 31 October 1940.

World War II ended in Europe on 8 May 1945 – this is also known as **VE Day**.

World War II carried on for a few months after it ended in Europe, and officially ended when Japan formally surrendered to the Allies on 2 September 1945 (also called **VJ Day**).

Key words:

- War
- Axis
- Allied
- Evacuee

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- Battle of Britain
- Luftwaffe
- Royal Air Force
- VE Day