

World War II: Key Events

Aim:

Continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study by learning about a variety of key events from World War II.

I can describe what happened during some key events from World War II and order events on a timeline.

Success Criteria:

I can describe some of the key events of World War II.

I can order events from World War II onto a timeline.

I can explain why a specific World War II event was a key turning point in the war.

Resources:

[Lesson Pack](#)

Access to the Internet and/or information books for research

Key/New Words:

Battle of France, Battle of Britain, The Blitz, Dunkirk, Pearl Harbour, Dambusters Raid, Battle of the Bulge, D-Day, VE Day, atomic bomb

Preparation:

[World War II Events Cards](#) - 1 set per group

[World War II Timeline Activity Sheet](#)

- 1 per child

[World War II Turning Point Investigation Activity Sheet](#) - 1 per group

[Turning Points Key Events Activity Sheet](#) - 1 per child

[World War II KWL Grid](#) (from lesson 1) - 1 per child

Prior Learning: Children will have learnt key facts about World War II in Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Learning Sequence

	Key Events in World War II: Children work in groups to discuss the events from the World War II Events Cards . They share any information they know about each event and try to order the cards chronologically. Reveal the order and share the information about each event with the children using the information on the following slides of the Lesson Presentation . Look for children who are able to recall the key events that happened and can provide some explanation of their own.	
	World War II Timeline: Children complete the differentiated World War II Timeline Activity Sheet . Check that children can put the events in chronological order. Can children add any additional information of their own? Children are given cards containing key information. They need to add the correct date(s) and place them on the timeline. Children are given cards containing some dates and some information. They need to add the missing information to the cards and then order them on the timeline. Children are given dates and blank cards. They add their own information and then order the cards on the timeline.	
	Turning Points: Children work in small groups to research one of the key events using the World War II Turning Point Investigation Activity Sheet . (It is recommended that you allocate the groups one of the following: The Battle of Britain, The German Invasion of Russia, The bombing of Pearl Harbour, The Dambusters Raid, The Normandy Landings). Children investigate to what extent their event was a turning point in the war. Allow time for each group to research, discuss, and then present their learning to the rest of the class. Other groups take notes on the Turning Points Key Events Activity Sheet . Look for children who are able to clearly explain why their event was a key turning point in the war and can present factual information about it.	
	Debate: Conduct a class debate posing the question: 'What was the key turning point of World War II?' Which events do children think were the most significant? Can one key turning point be identified?	
	Reflection: Children fill in their World War II KWL Grid , which they started in Lesson 1. They should add information they have learnt throughout the series of lessons. Are there any questions still unanswered? Address these together. Look for children who are able to draw on their learning throughout the series of lessons to give an overview of a variety of events and key facts about the war.	

Taskit

Recountit: Can you write a personal recount as if you experienced one of the key events first-hand?

Drawit: Can you create a piece of art to depict one of the key events?

Reportit: Can you make a television programme or write a report, which investigates and reports on key events from the war?