

Evacuees

Evacuation means leaving a place. During the Second World War, many children living in big cities and towns were moved temporarily from their homes to places considered safer, usually out in the countryside. Between 1939 – 1945 there were three major evacuations in preparation of the German Luftwaffe bombing Britain. From June 13 to June 18, 1940, around 100,000 children were evacuated (in many cases re-evacuated).



What you should already know:

- In September, 1939, German armies invaded Poland and France.
- Hitler wanted to make Germany the most powerful country in Europe.
- Adolf Hitler was the German leader during World War 2.
- The major Allied Powers were Britain, France, Russia, China and the United States.
- The major Axis Powers were Germany, Italy and Japan.

Anne Frank

Anne Frank was an ordinary German Jewish girl. She is well-known because of her diary. It was first published as a book, in Dutch, in 1947. Since then, millions of people have read the thoughts and hopes of one young girl, and they have been truly inspired by them.

Throughout her diary, 'The Diary of Anne Frank', people all over the world are able to see what life was like for Jewish people during WW2.

Concentration camps

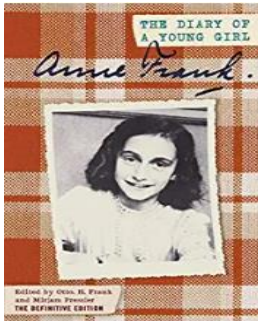
Concentration camps were prisons where people, especially Jews, were made to work by the Nazis. In 1942, eight of the Nazi camps were equipped with gas chambers. These were used to murder large numbers of people. Conditions in the camps were terrible. There was not enough food available, and guards committed acts of violence against the prisoners. Working too hard on too little food and rest was responsible for many deaths.



VE Day

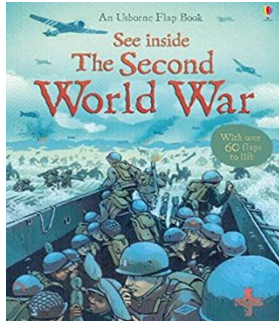
On the 7th May, 1945, the Germans surrendered to the Allies. The war in Europe was officially over, and the following day was called VE (Victory in Europe) Day. Huge celebrations took place in Paris, London, and throughout Europe. In London, people gathered in front of Buckingham Palace to see prime minister Winston Churchill and the royal family. After five devastating years, the war in Europe was finally over.

Books you might find useful...



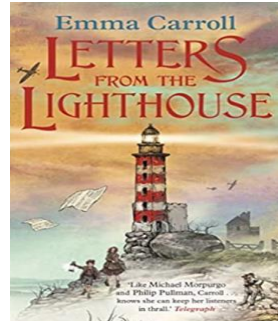
Diary of a Young Girl

Mirjam Pressler



The Second World War

Rob Lloyd Jones



Letters from
the Lighthouse

Emma Carroll

Websites you might find useful...

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwtwo/>
- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Britain.html>
- <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/world-war-ii/>
- <https://the1940sexperiment.com/100-wartime-recipes/>

Key vocabulary

attic - a space or room inside or partly inside the roof of a building.

Auschwitz - was originally a Polish army barracks in southern Poland. Also known as Auschwitz-Birkenau. It opened in 1940 and was the largest of the Nazi concentration and death camps.

commemorate – to recall and show respect by doing or producing something.

countryside – the land and scenery of a rural area.

ethnicity - connected with or relating to different racial or cultural groups of people.

evacuation – happens when people are removed from or leave a dangerous place.

flee - run away from a place or situation of danger.

Holocaust - a very large amount of destruction, especially by fire or heat, or the killing of very large numbers of people.

Jew - a member of the people and cultural community whose traditional religion is Judaism.

surrender - stop resisting to an enemy or opponent and submit to their authority.

Home learning ideas

What will you choose to do?

- Make do and mend! Can you revamp some of your old clothes to make new clothes? Maybe you could 'upcycle' some unwanted household items and make them useful in a whole new way! Bring them to school to show your classmates and share your ideas.
- Find some wartime recipes and make a typical meal using foods that would have been rationed at the time.
- Imagine that you were an evacuee and write a diary entry about what life is like in your new home.