



## Learning Exploration: World War II – The World At War

The study of World War II – The World at War - aligns with the aims of the national curriculum by providing students with a comprehensive understanding of this significant historical period. By exploring World War II, students will be able to develop an understanding of the causes and events leading up to war. They will develop a sense of chronology and understand the sequence of historical events, placing the period of World War II in context with their previous learning.

Students will gain an understanding of the global nature of World War II. They will explore the experiences and contributions of different countries and regions, with a particular focus on Britain. This will provide a broader perspective on the war and allow students to appreciate the varied impacts it had on different parts of the world.

By teaching Year 6 students about World War II, we provide them with a comprehensive understanding of this pivotal period in history. It equips them with vital historical knowledge, fosters critical thinking skills, and promotes empathy and understanding, enabling them to engage with the complexities and consequences of the war and its impact on individuals, communities, and nations.

### Hook into learning:

This exploration will begin with year six visiting our own 'school museum'. They will explore a variety of sources and share what they already know about World War Two. This will be an immersive experience with audio sources, primary sources from the time as well as a historical expert.

### Journey through the exploration

After children have had the opportunity to investigate a variety of World War Two sources in our 'school museum', they will begin to **explore this period of history and its place on a timeline in relation to their prior learning** from previous year groups. As part of this exploration of chronology, children will **develop an understanding of what was happening in different parts of the world, including Britain, at this time**. Children will explore the key question **what were the main reasons for the start of WWII?** Through a focus on oracy, children will debate, in role as a member of parliament, whether they would have voted to go to war or not justifying their reasoning.





## Journey through the exploration (continued)

After exploring the causes of war, children will then begin their journey through the main events of WWII. They will explore these events using primary and secondary sources and will use these to answer these key questions: **What was life like in Britain during WWII? What were the different roles that contributed to the overall war effort? How was life different for people around the world?** Through this key question, we will explore persecution which took place during WWII specifically, the **Holocaust**. **What were the events that led to the end of the war? How was the Battle of Britain significant and how was this a turning point in the war?** Finally, children will investigate the end of the war, including **VE day**, and then explore some of the long-term impacts of WWII on the people of Britain.



### Linked subjects

Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, including in the following subjects:

- **English, History, Art**

The following subjects will be taught discretely:

- **Computing, French, PSHE, Music, Maths, Science, RE, PE**

### Writing



Children will explore the following genres of writing:

**Fiction:** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

**Purpose:** To vividly describe and entertain.

Children will write their own portal story.

**Non-fiction – diary writing:** My Secret War Diary by Flossie Albright – Marcia Williams

**Purpose:** To describe events and convince the reader.

Children will write a sequence of diary entries as an evacuee.

Opportunities for writing across the curriculum:

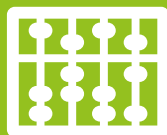
Diary from the perspective of someone who has experienced WWII.

Explanation text – How The Eye Works (science link).

### Maths

Children will explore:

- Place Value
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division





## Opportunities to build cultural capital

Cultural capital is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement. At NCSPA, we aim to build cultural capital through experiences such as trips, visitors, music and providing local links.

For Year 6, options this term may include:

- WWII expert historian visit
- Exeter trip – Tour of Exeter – WWII focus where children will experience what it was like to be an evacuee and travel by train
- Wider knowledge of war artists

## Opportunities for shared outcomes

Children will have the opportunity to produce or take part in one or more of the following:

- Discussions and debates.
- Of their artwork based on the Learning Exploration.
- Museum exhibition to parents and the rest of school.



## Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Addressing equality, diversity, and inclusion while teaching about World War II in Year 6 can provide valuable opportunities for students to understand the historical context and consider different perspectives.

This includes:

- Highlighting the roles and achievements of women during World War II.
- Exploring the experiences of diverse groups during the war.
- Teaching about the persecution of Jewish people and other targeted groups by the Nazis.
- Highlighting the diverse groups involved in resistance efforts against Nazi occupation.
- Exploring the experiences of different countries involved in the war
- Sharing personal stories and testimonies of individuals who lived through World War II.
- Creating opportunities for group discussions, debates, and reflections on the topics of equality, diversity, and inclusion.

## Further curriculum information

If you would like any further information regarding the curriculum, please:

- Speak to Mrs Vine, Mrs Gregory or Miss Ashton.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.