

The Outbreak of War



Aim

- I can explain why World War II began and order events from early World War II on a timeline.

Success Criteria

- I can explain what I already know about World War II and think of questions I would like to ask.
- I can order events from early World War II on a timeline.

Britain at War



What do you already know about World War II?

Think about the following questions and jot down any information you can in the K section of your **World War II KWL Grid**.

- When and why did World War II start?
- What were the main countries and people involved?
- Do you know about any key events that happened?
- What was life in Britain like during World War II?
- What else do you already know about World War II?



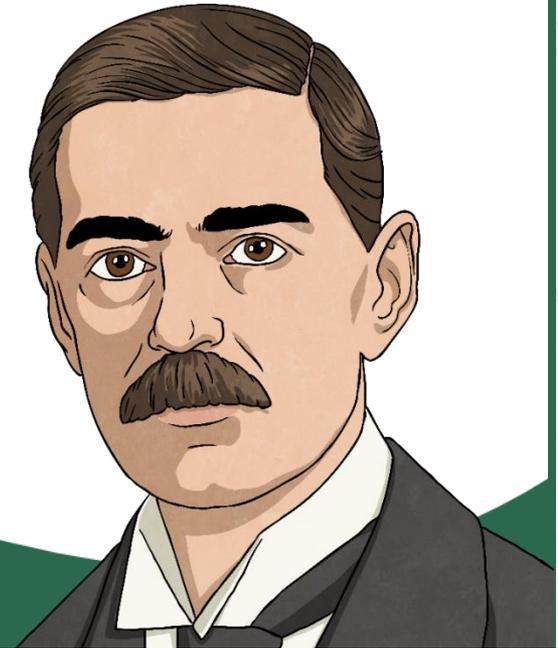
Now, think about what you would like to learn about World War II or what you would like to find out more about. Record your thoughts and questions in the W section of your World War II KWL Grid.

Neville Chamberlain



Listen to (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/history-ks2-world-war-2-clips-the-declaration-of-war/z4qn6v4>) or read the speech (next slide) made by the then British prime minister, Neville Chamberlain, announcing to Britain that they were at war with Germany on 3rd September, 1939.

- How do you think you would have felt to hear the announcement?
- What questions would you have wanted to ask Mr. Chamberlain?

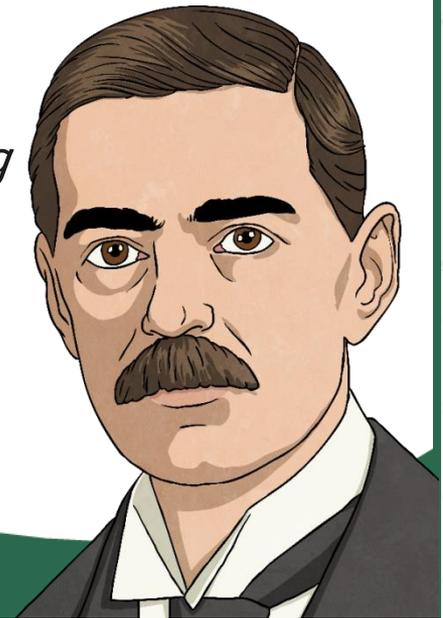


Neville Chamberlain



I am speaking to you from the Cabinet Room of 10 Downing Street. This morning the British Ambassador in Berlin handed the German government a final note, stating that unless we heard from them - by 11 o'clock - that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Poland, a state of war would exist between us.

I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received and that, consequently, this country is at war with Germany.



Adolf Hitler



living space

claimed as German land

Leader

Adolf Hitler was the Führer (_____) of Nazi Germany.

He had plans to invade and occupy as many countries as he could to gain Lebensraum (_____) for German people.

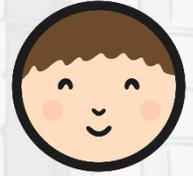
In 1938-1939 Hitler's troops had already invaded and annexed (_____) Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Britain and France had promised to protect Poland if it was also invaded, so when Hitler refused to withdraw the troops that had marched into the country on 1st September 1939, Britain and France reacted.

Britain and France declared war on Germany on 3rd September, 1939.



Early World War II Events

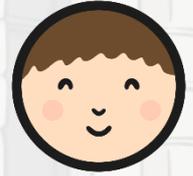


You are going to make a timeline showing some important events in early World War II. First, watch this short film about the events leading up to the declaration of war by Britain on Germany in 1939.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-the-outbreak-of-world-war-2/z7d847h>



Early World War II Events



You are going to make a timeline showing some important events in early World War II.

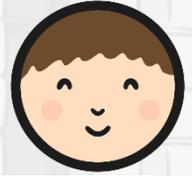
Read the **Early World War II Information Sheet**.

Now, create a timeline, in chronological order, using the following dates (some dates appear twice because two important events took place at the same time).

March 1938	10 May 1940
September 1938	12 May 1940
September 1938	14 May 1940
August 1939	27 May 1940
1 September 1939	28 May 1940
3 September 1939	9 June 1940
10 May 1940	22 June 1940



Allies and Axis Powers



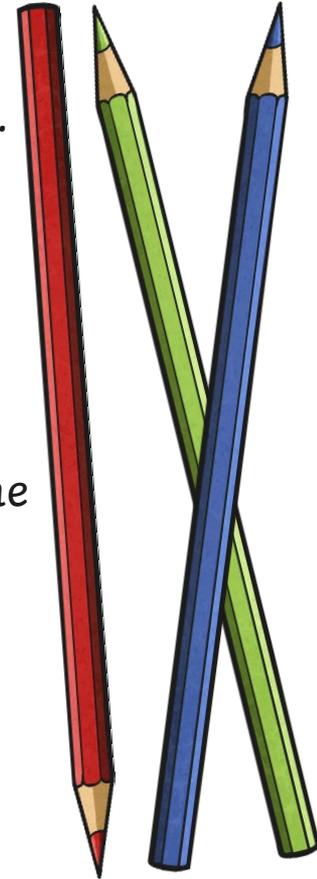
At the start of World War II, the Allies were the United Kingdom, France and Poland. These nations had made a pact to stand together against Hitler and the Axis Powers.

The Allies were soon joined by the British Commonwealth (South Africa, Canada, Australia and New Zealand) and then the Soviet Union, the United States of America and China.

Other Allies included British India, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia. In 1942, the Allies were officially named as the United Nations.

The Axis Powers were Germany, Japan and Italy, who made a pact to stand together in opposition to the Allies.

Colour in your **World War II Colouring Map Activity Sheet** to show the Allies, Axis Powers, and the Axis-controlled and neutral countries.



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- I can order events from early World War II on a timeline.
- I can label a map to show who the Allies and Axis Powers were in World War II.