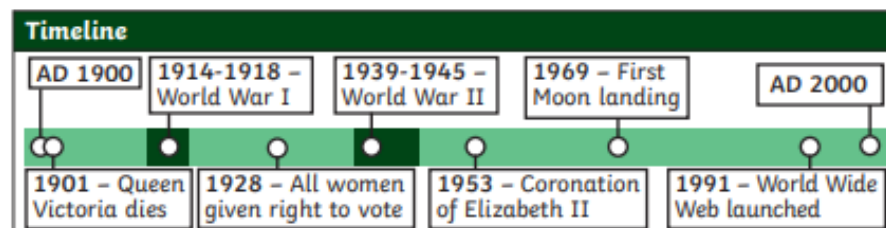


Year 6 – World War Two

Key Vocabulary	
Allies	The United Kingdom, France and Poland, later joined by other countries, including the USSR (Soviet Union), the United States of America and China.
Axis	The Axis Powers were originally Germany, Japan and Italy. Other countries joined them later.
Nazi party	A German political party with racist and anti-Jewish ideas, led by Adolf Hitler.
atomic bomb	A very high-energy bomb made of radioactive material.
annex	To take another country's land and make it part of your country.
Czechoslovakia	A European country. Now two countries: the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
propaganda	Information designed to promote a political idea or opinion.
active service	Taking part in a military operation as part of the armed forces.

Key Events		
1939	1 st September	German troops invade Poland.
	3 rd September	Britain and France declare war on Germany.
1940	10 th May	The Battle of France begins.
	26 th May	Allied forces are evacuated from Dunkirk in France.
	10 th July	The Battle of Britain begins.
	7 th September	The Blitz begins.
1941	22 nd June	Germany invades the USSR (Soviet Union).
	7 th December	Japan bombs Pearl Harbor in the US.
1943	16 th and 17 th May	The Dambusters bombing raid is carried out.
1944	6 th June	The D-Day landings.
1945	7 th May	Germany surrenders to the Allies .
	6 th and 9 th August	The US drops atomic bombs on two cities in Japan.



How Did World War II Start?

The leader of Germany, Adolf Hitler, had plans to take over other countries. In March 1938, Germany invaded and **annexed** Austria, which made other countries worried. On 29th September 1938, British, French, German and Italian leaders signed a treaty called the Munich Agreement. This allowed Hitler to **annex** the Sudetenland (an area of **Czechoslovakia**) if he agreed not to invade anywhere else. However, in August 1939, Hitler broke the agreement and invaded the rest of **Czechoslovakia**, followed by Poland on 1st September. Britain, France and Poland had made a pact to support each other, so Britain and France declared war on Germany.

The Holocaust

The Holocaust is the term for the killing of over six million Jewish people before and during World War II, organised by Adolf Hitler and the **Nazi party**. Even before the war, they wanted to blame the Jews for the problems in Germany and used **propaganda** to promote widespread public hatred of them. Jewish people were openly bullied, persecuted, abused and discriminated against.

Many Jews were sent to concentration camps where they were forced to work like slaves. Many died through infection, starvation or exhaustion. Others were sent to death camps where they were killed in gas chambers. This form of mass killing is called genocide.