



Kid's Corner



When did World War II start?

World War II began on 1 September 1939.

When did the war end?

During the course of World War II, the Axis troops had captured and occupied lots of countries, including France and Poland. But by 1944, lots of these countries were being freed by the Allies. Italy also changed sides in 1943 and declared war on Germany. Germany and the Axis powers were losing. Then, on 30 April 1945, Adolf Hitler committed suicide. A week later, Germany surrendered.

On 8 May 1945, Winston Churchill (Britain's Prime Minister) announced that the war was over. This was known as VE Day (Victory in Europe Day). However, the war wasn't officially ended all around the world until 2 September 1945.

Why did World War II start?

In World War I (1914-1918), Germany was one of the countries that lost the war. Many other countries blamed Germany for the war. Germany was forced to sign an agreement that said they were to blame for the war, that they had to pay a fine, that they had to have land taken away and that they were only allowed a small army.

However, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis wanted Germany to be a powerful country again. They ignored the agreement and secretly started building up their army. They started to take back lands they had lost. Other countries decided not to fight them because they didn't want another war to start.

However, Germany invaded Poland with 1 million soldiers on 1 September 1939. France and Great Britain then decided that they couldn't let Germany keep breaking their agreement. They decided to support Poland and help protect them from the invasion. They declared war on Germany. This was the start of World War II.

Other countries soon joined the war. Soon, there was barely a country left in the world who wasn't involved in the war.

I have attached lots of activities to the email sent with this. The message for the activity below is in this pack.

VE Day Morse Code Challenge

On Tuesday 8th May, 1945, millions of people rejoiced in the news that Germany had surrendered. In towns and cities across the world, people marked the victory with street parties, dancing and singing. Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom at that time, gave a rousing speech to the nation.

Your challenge is to use the morse code chart to decipher part of Churchill's famous speech!

TIP: look carefully for the spaces that indicate the end of one letter and the start of another.

A	.-	B	...-	C	-.--	D	..-.	E	..	F	..-.
G	--.	H	I	..	J	.-.-	K	-.-	L	.-..
M	--	N	-.	O	---	P	.-.-	Q	.-.-	R	.-.
S	...	T	-	U	..-	V	...-	W	.-.-	X	-.-
Y	-.-	Z	--	,	...-	!	...		

-	Dash
.	Dot
	Letter separator
/	Word separator

