

# A Child's War



These activities are for you to do at home. You can do all of them or choose the ones that you find most interesting.

## Activities

1. Use a range of sources, including information books and the internet, to find out about some of the Second World War's key events. Record the events chronologically on a timeline, and include one or two sentences about each event.

2. This image shows the evacuation of children during the Second World War. Write a definition to explain the meaning of the words 'evacuation' and 'evacuee'. Then, use the internet to find out more about evacuation during the war. Record your findings and describe how it might have felt having to cope with evacuation from a child's and parent's point of view.



3. Write a definition to explain what propaganda means, then look on the Imperial War Museums – Second World War Posters webpage to look at propaganda posters that the government produced. Choose two or three posters to study. Consider who the poster was aimed at, what they wanted to achieve and how effective you think the poster was.

4. During the Second World War, food was scarce in Britain and the government rationed food. A typical ration for one adult per week was:

- 4oz bacon and ham
- 2oz butter
- 2oz cheese
- 4oz margarine
- 4oz cooking fat (lard)
- 3 pints milk
- 8oz sugar
- 2oz tea
- 1 egg, if available

Convert ounces to grams and use kitchen scales to see how much this weekly ration was. Then, use the internet or information books to find out more about rationed foods and rationing during the Second World War. Record your findings.

5. Use your research skills to find wartime recipes for meals that people made using their rations. Choose one of the recipes and with an adult, make your chosen meal. Review the meal, considering the method, appearance, taste and possible improvements.
6. Use a range of sources to create a non-chronological report about the Blitz around Britain. Note down and group your findings on a mind map, then use this to create your non-chronological report. Include a title, opening paragraph, subheadings, interesting facts, precise topic vocabulary and images with captions. Once complete, share your report with a family member.
7. During the war, people kept themselves safe from bombing attacks by using gas masks, Anderson shelters and Morrison shelters. Use a range of sources to find out about these safety measures and complete a table to record your findings. Include descriptions and how they protected people.
8. Use a range of sources to find out about the Battle of Britain, which was a military campaign during the Second World War. Use your research skills to answer the questions.
  - When did the Battle of Britain happen, and how was it caused?
  - Where was the Battle of Britain fought, and who was involved?
  - What technology did the British army use to give them an advantage in the Battle of Britain?
  - Britain's plan worked, and Germany eventually realised that they had failed to gain control over the skies. What happened in Britain after the battle?
9. Read an abridged version of Anne Franks' diary, such as *Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl* by Mirjam Pressler, to learn about what life was like for Anne and her family during the Second World War. After reading, discuss what you have learned about Anne Frank, with a family member.



**10.** Finish your home learning by writing a summary of the topic, explaining what you have learned about the Second World War.

### Useful websites

DKfindout! – World War II Facts

BBC – History World War Two: Summary Outline of Key Events

Imperial War Museums – The Evacuated Children of the Second World War

BBC Teach – A news report on the evacuation – Primary History KS2

Country Life – The wartime recipes that kept Britain going in the Second World War

Imperial War Museums – Rationing in Britain, 1943

Imperial War Museums – Air Raid Shelters in London, 1940

BBC Teach – The Battle of Britain and beyond – History KS2

Anne Frank House – Anne

### Good reads

| Title   | Author                      | ISBN          |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Letters from the Lighthouse   | Emma Carroll                | 9780571327584 |
| DK Eyewitness: World War II   | DK                          | 9781409343677 |
| World War Two: Timeline of the Second World War   | Simon Adams                 | 9781445143477 |
| Voices from the Second World War – Witnesses share their stories with the children of today | First News                  | 9781406365986 |
| Horrible Histories: Blitzed Brits   | Terry Deary                 | 9781407167015 |
| Fighting Forces of the Second World War: In the Air   | John C Miles                | 9781445157856 |
| Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl  | Abridged by Mirjam Pressler | 9780141345352 |

