

1. INTRODUCTION

8th May 1945 was the date when Britain and its allies celebrated the defeat of Nazi Germany after six years and millions of lives lost in war. This day became known as **Victory in Europe (VE) Day**. It was the end of the Second World War in Europe, although fighting continued in other parts of the world.

It was on this date that great celebrations took place across Europe and North America: in London huge crowds of more than a million people gathered in Trafalgar Square and up the Mall to Buckingham Palace, where King George VI appeared on the balcony to cheering crowds. Amongst the crowds, Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II) and her sister, Princess Margaret, blended in anonymously, experiencing the celebrations for themselves.

By completing the activities on this sheet, you can learn more about the events of Second World War and why people still celebrate VE Day.

2. CELEBRATIONS ON VE DAY

How did people in Britain celebrate VE Day?

- Watch this video clip on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtzrA2v>
- Make list of all the different ways that people are celebrating in the video.



V-E DAY 75TH
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VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY • MAY 8

3. THE GRAND ALLIANCE

Which countries worked together to beat Nazi Germany?

Britain did not defeat Nazi Germany alone. Three countries came together as allies and worked together to win the war. You can see their flags here. For each flag, research and write down:

- The name of the country
- The name of their leader in World War II
- One interesting fact about each country during World War II.



4. THE AXIS POWERS

Which countries was Britain fighting against?

Britain's enemies in World War II were known as **the Axis Powers**. You can see their flags here. For each flag, research and write down:

- The name of the country
- The name of their leader in World War II
- One interesting fact about each country during World War II.



5. KEY EVENTS OF WW2

What were the key events in World War II?

Draw a timeline like the one below.

1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945

- Find out when these events happened and put them on your timeline.

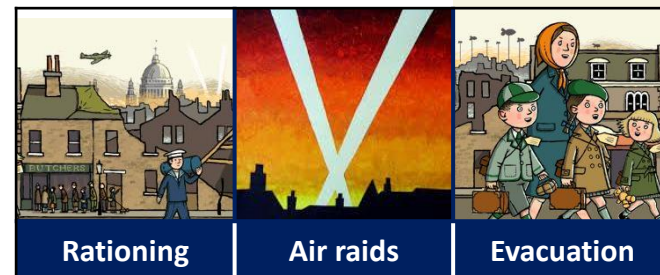
a.	D-Day
b.	Operation Barbarossa
c.	Germany invades Poland
d.	VE Day
e.	The attack on Pearl Harbour
f.	The Battle of Britain
g.	The Battle of Stalingrad
h.	Hitler commits suicide

6. LIFE IN BRITAIN DURING WW2

How did World War II affect life in Britain?

On VE Day, many British people were pleased because the war against Germany had made their lives difficult.

Pick one of these three problems of life in Britain during World War II. Do some of your own research on it and present your findings to someone in your family.



Rationing

Air raids

Evacuation

7. QUIZ SOMEONE YOU KNOW

What do your family know about VE Day?

Using what you have learned today, write a short quiz with ten multiple choice questions. Test someone in your family.