

Knowledge Organiser

Year Group	Subject	Topic
5	History	WW1

The Big Picture

The children will begin learning about what war is before exploring the different causes of World War 1. They will learn about what life was like for soldiers on the Western Front and trench warfare. When exploring life on the home front, children will examine propaganda posters and analyse their reliability. We will learn about the Battle of the Somme, why it was a significant event in the war and how WW1 ended. Throughout the topic children will learn about how the war affected life in Britain, show an understanding of aspects of the past and how they can be interpreted in different ways and identify and explain propaganda.

Enquiry Question

What were the causes of WW1? What was life like on the western front? What was life like on the home front? How were soldiers recruited?
What was the Battle of the Somme?
How did WW1 end?

The Triple Entente/The Allies	The Triple Alliance/The Central Powers	
United Kingdom	Germany	
France	Italy	
Russia	Austria-Hungary	





Major Events		
Event	Description	Date
Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated	Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria is assassinated by a Serbian terrorist. Following a number of threats, Austria- Hungary declares war on Serbia.	28 th June 1914 28 th July 1914
Other nations begin to join the war	Germany declares war on Russia in support of Austria-Hungary before declaring war on France. Following a German invasion of Belgium, Britain declares war on Germany.	August 1914
Trench Warfare	The German army is stopped short of Paris by British and French soldiers. Both sides dig in and trench warfare begins with only tiny gains achieved.	September 1914 before continuing throughout
America joins the war	The United States of America declares war on Germany, providing France and Britain with much needed financial and military support.	April 1917
Russia leaves the war	Following a revolution in Russia that sees new leaders, Russia signs an armistice that sees them withdraw from the war.	December 1917
Fighting comes to an end	An armistice is agreed that sees Germany admit defeat at the end of the war. Guns officially fall silent at 11am.	11 th November 1918

Alliance	An agreement between two or more people/countries to support each other.	
Armistice	An agreement of countries at war to stop fighting.	
Army	A large, organised group of soldiers which are trained to fight.	
Assassinated	The act of killing someone (usually an important person).	
Colonised	One country taking control of another country.	
Declare	To announce.	
Invade	To enter an area and forcibly take control.	
Power	Having authority.	
Rationed	Being given a food allowance when there is short supply.	
Trench	A long, narrow ditch.	