

	<p style="text-align: center;">Year 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">How did World War II affect everyday life in Reading, and how are those changes still remembered today?</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Summer 2026</p>
<p>Prior Knowledge</p>	<p>KS1 – What makes my town special?</p> <p>Year 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stone Age & Ancient Egyptians <p>Year 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romans, Anglo Saxons & Vikings <p>Year 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient Greeks
<p>Key Vocabulary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global conflict WWI - context • Core World War II - World War II, allies, axis, Nazi Germany, invasion • The Home Front & Civilian Life - home front, civilian, air raid, blackout, air raid siren, gas mask, Anderson shelter, home guard, volunteer, war effort • Evacuation & Childhood - evacuation, evacuee, host family, billeting • Rationing & Every day Life - rationing, ration book, shortage, Dig for Victory, allotment • Local history & Remembrance - local history, memorial, remembrance, legacy • Historical thinking - evidence, source, primary source, oral history, change, continuity
<p style="text-align: center;">Learning Sequence</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Lesson 1: Why was WWI the first global conflict and how did it lead to WWII?</p>	
<p>Substantive knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the meaning of a global conflict and how it differs from previous wars ✓ dates of the conflict ✓ the triple Entente vs Central Powers ✓ Industrialisation of new technology, vehicles, and weapons and how this changed the nature of combat ✓ Who was Trooper Potts was and why he gained the Victoria Cross (Local History) 	<p>Disciplinary knowledge:</p> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p><u>Cause and Consequence</u></p>  <p>Explore why the war started, WWI was not an isolated event but a catalyst for future change.</p> </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p><u>Continuity and Change</u></p> <p>Identify how warfare changed from previous eras and how local life changed because of the mobilisation of men from Reading</p> </div> <div>  <p><u>Historical Enquiry</u></p> <p>Why is Trooper Potts remembered today? Why is there a memorial to him in Reading?</p> </div>

Lesson 2: When and why did WWII happen?

Substantive knowledge:

- Understand the timeline and global scale of WWII
- Identify reasons why Britain entered the war against Nazi Germany
- Understand the concept of 'Total War' and its impact on Civilians

Disciplinary knowledge:



change

Chronology helps explain



Similarities and differences

Impact on Combat Front and Civilian Front.

Lesson 3: How did the Home Front change everyday life?

Substantive knowledge:

- What Reading was like before WWII: stable, settled community, people had routines, jobs, children went to school
- How did the Home Front change life to keep people safe:
 - ✓ Shelters
 - ✓ Blackouts
 - ✓ Sirens
 - ✓ Routines changed
 - ✓ Community cooperation / training

Disciplinary knowledge:



Sources of Evidence

Eye-witness accounts, photographs, reading museum

Lesson 4: What was it like to be a child during WWII?

Substantive knowledge:

- Many children were evacuated from cities
- Reading both sent and received evacuees
- Wartime childhood was often very different from today
- Schools and family life changed significantly – family separation

Disciplinary knowledge:



Historical Enquiry:

- Pupils ask questions such as:
 - How do we know Reading was affected by air raids?
 - What was it like to be a child in Reading during the war?
- Pupils use evidence to answer questions rather than simply receiving facts



Similarities and differences

Compare own life today with that of wartime children's lives

Lesson 5: How did rationing and war work affect people?

Substantive knowledge:

- Rationing controlled food and supplies
- “Dig for Victory”
- Women took new roles
- Home Guard supported defence
- War economy
- Social change
- Community responsibility

Disciplinary knowledge:



Significance and Interpretation



Cause and Consequence

- National decisions affected local lives
- Evidence can show social change

Lesson 6: What is remembered locally about WWII?

Substantive knowledge:

- Memorials preserve local memory
 - Communities choose what to remember
 - WWII shaped local identity
 - War memorials
 - Remembrance traditions
 - Local commemoration

Disciplinary knowledge:



Significance and Interpretation

- Significance is interpreted
- Everyday people can be historically important