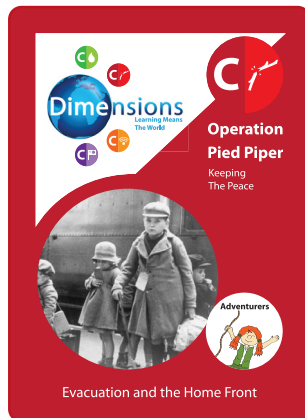


Adventurers - Operation Pied Piper



Overview

'Operation Pied Piper' is a thematic unit based on the evacuation of children (code named 'Operation Pied Piper' during World War Two) and the Home Front during World War Two. There is a key focus on history. Pupils will learn about the causes of World War Two and the countries involved. They will then find out about the evacuation of children to the countryside during the war, the roles the public played to support the war effort in Britain and government initiatives of rationing and supplying air raid shelters.

World War Two

World War Two was a conflict that involved most of the nations across the globe. It began on 3rd September 1939 and peace was declared in Europe on 8th May 1945. The main conflict was between Britain and her allies, and Germany and her allies. An ally is a person or nation that supports you. World War Two was very different to the first World War as it greatly affected those left in Britain, as well as those away fighting. Children were evacuated from their homes in towns and cities and those too old to fight were encouraged to group together to form Home Guards. Women worked in factories and on the land to make sure Britain had enough food and weaponry.

Evacuation

As aircraft technology had developed significantly since World War 1, it was feared that the Germans would use bombing raids to destroy important locations around the British Isles, mainly towns and cities. The government then decided to evacuate children in these places to the relative safety of the countryside. Many children left their parents behind and travelled away. Some evacuated children had a brilliant time living on farms or in small villages but it wasn't always fun for them all.



Home Front

Those left at home were women or men that were too old, sick or disabled to fight abroad and were encouraged to guard life at home. Older men became Home Guard Wardens, they defended the coast from a potential invasion on a voluntary basis. Other men became ARP wardens. They sounded the air raid sirens to warn everyone to take shelter. Young women became land girls. They helped on farms or became ambulance drivers, nurses and tank builders.

You're on rations!

The government introduced rationing in January 1940 to ensure everyone had enough supplies for their homes. This meant that you could only have a set amount of sugar, butter, bacon and eggs, for example. People became creative with how they used their rations. Chocolate truffles might be made with a little bit of cocoa powder and then mashed potato! People were encouraged to grow their own vegetables so many people ate much more vegetables than meat.

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Vocabulary

Air raid	an attack from the air During WW2, both Britain and Germany used air raids to bomb and destroy important cities and ports in each other's country. Many people built air raid shelters in their gardens or converted dining room tables to be more sturdy. Tube stations in London became air raid shelters as they were deep underground.
Ally	to join or unite for a particular purpose
ARP warden	Air Raid Precaution warden
Blitz	Blitzkrieg or Lightning War This is the German word for the large air raids that took place between September 1940 and May 1941.
Evacuation	to escape from a place when there is a potential danger
Gas Mask	There were fears that the German airforce would drop bombs containing gas which could cause serious breathing problems or damage eyes, so this was a piece of equipment that everyone had to carry to cover their faces so they could breathe.
Invade	to enter as an enemy, by force, in order to conquer or plunder
Land Army	The Land Army and Land Girls worked on farms to produce food and look after farm animals. They often worked 50 hours a week!
Rationing	When there isn't enough of something, your ration is the amount you are allowed to have. Rationing of food, clothing and supplies began in January 1940. Families received rationing coupons so they could keep track of what they had used weekly or monthly.
Rural	to do with country life
Urban	to do with a city or town

Concept Flow

- To know where and when WWII took place, who the main leaders were and which countries were involved
- To identify and locate on a map the countries involved in WWII
- To learn about the evacuation process during WWII
- To know about the Blitz and the shelters used to protect people from air raids
- To know about the Home Front and rationing



My Notes / Questions