

HOME LEARNING ACTIVITY PACK 2

ONLINE

THE NAZIS



FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED **11-16** YEARS OLD

Anne Frank.

The Anne Frank Trust UK

GERMANY AFTER WORLD WAR 1

After 4 long years of war, Germany waved the white flag and admitted defeat on 11th November 1918. Many of the German troops couldn't believe it – they believed they were winning the war. The only explanation to many of these soldiers is that the government had 'stabbed them in the back.'



Otto Frank (left) and his brother Robert (right) both fought for Germany in WW1



A protest about the Treaty of Versailles in Berlin in 1932.

The loss of the war meant that Germany had to sign the **Treaty of Versailles**. One of the clauses in this treaty was that they accepted the blame for the war. Many people thought this was deeply unfair. Germany had no choice but to sign, leaving them to pay huge reparations—£6.6 BILLION.

This bankrupted Germany, leading to hyperinflation (money becoming worthless), huge unemployment and starvation of people. More and more Germans began to believe the '**Stab in the Back**' theory, which blamed the Jews for the loss in the war.



Children playing with worthless banknotes in 1923

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HOW DID HITLER RISE TO POWER?

Although Germany did begin to recover in the 1920s with the help of the **Dawes Plan** (where America loaned Germany \$45million and gave them longer to repay the war debt) many former soldiers especially still believed they'd been betrayed.

In 1923 Adolf Hitler tried to overthrow the government in the **Munich Putsch**. He did not have enough support at this time to be successful - and this landed him in prison where he wrote his book 'Mein Kampf.'

In 1929 the **Wall Street Crash** hit, crashing Germany's economy back to post WW1 levels. Germans were angry, frustrated and wanted somebody to blame.

Hitler used the '**Stab in the Back**' myth to blame Jewish people for the problems in Germany - and people started to listen.

In 1933 Hitler was elected Chancellor of Germany with 33% of the vote. Over the next year he managed to end all opposition to him. With the death of the German president Hidenburg, became Fuhrer and Germany was now under a dictatorship.



Hitler at the annual Nazi rally in Nuremberg 1927



Hitler attracts a growing following. In 1930, 18.3% of Germans vote for the Nazi party

EXTRA RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Look through pages 2-3 and find out more information on the terms in **bold**.

Activity

LIFE UNDER THE NAZIS



YOU CAN FIND **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** TO HELP YOU COMPLETE THIS ACTIVITY WHEN YOU DOWNLOAD THE PRINTABLE VERSION FROM OUR WEBSITE.

Complete the grid below. Through this activity you will have a brief overview of how the Nazis changed life for many people living in Germany; and then occupied Europe.

Name of Group	What The Nazis Did	The Benefits	Disadvantages
WOMEN 			
TEACHERS 			
UNEMPLOYED 			
CHRISTIANS 			
YOUNG PEOPLE 			

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REFLECT

What have you learned about life under the Nazis?

You will already know that the Nazi party was deeply antisemitic (they hated Jewish people).



Many people living in Germany in the 1930s were what we describe as 'Bystanders' – what do you think this means?

From what you've learned can you start to suggest reasons at this point as to why so many people did not stand up for the Jewish community?

What lessons can we learn from this today?