

Subject: History
Year group: 5
Term: Summer Term 2023
Unit name: The Kingdom of Benin
What can the historical Kingdom of Benin tell us about the different ways of seeing history?

Retrieval Vocabulary	New Vocabulary
ancestor, artefact, attack, century, colony, custom, descendant, destroyed, dispute, dynasty, exile, goods, massacre, migrate, modern, monument, nobility, organisation, past, period, population precious, production, property, represent, ruler, sacking, seafarer, sophistication, stability, successor, symbolism, territory, tragedy, transport, treaty, unity, worship	atrocity, consolidate, consumption, distribution, guild, hostility, notoriety

National Curriculum:
 a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – one study chosen from: early Islamic civilization, including a study of Baghdad c. AD 900; Mayan civilization c. AD 900; **Benin (West Africa) c. AD 900-1300.**

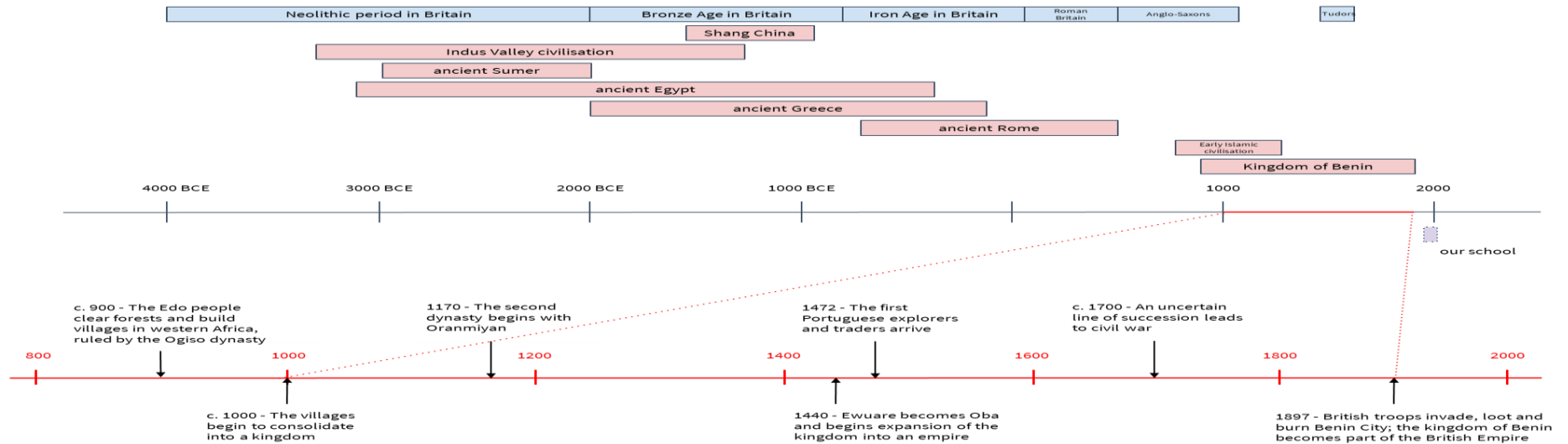


Spiritual Development
 Through the study of history children have the opportunity to learn about the past and go on to shape the future. The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out. Proverbs 18:15. As without knowledge 'his words lack insight.' Job 34:35.

Key Concepts:
community & culture (architecture, art, civilisation, economy, nation, religion, settlement, trade),
conflict & disaster - (conquest, liberation, occupation, military, peace, treaty, war),
exploration & invention (discovery, migration, progress),
hierarchy & power - (country, empire, government, law, monarchy, oppression, prejudice, privilege, slavery, tyranny),
evidence & interpretation (eye-witness, source),

Key Individuals: Eweka I; Ruy de Sequeira; Lourenco Pinto; Olfert Dapper; Van Meurs; Tiffany Jenkins; Funmi Adebayo

Specific knowledge:
 To answer the question: What have we learned about history so far?
 To answer the question: How and when was the Kingdom of Benin formed, and what role does oral tradition play in our understanding of Benin?
 To answer the question: Who were the Obas, and how was society organised in Benin?
 To answer the question: Who was Oba Ewuare, and how has his reign been interpreted by different people?
 To answer the question: What was Benin City like at its height and how did this compare to wealthy European cities at the time?
 To answer the question: How did the Kingdom of Benin come to an end?
 To answer the question: Should the Benin bronzes be returned or kept in the British Museum?
The planning document contains the knowledge for each of these questions.



Prior Learning:

What a source is and how this can be used by historians.
 Chronological knowledge of a timeline and the demarcation of time.
 Early civilisations and structure

Skills:

Understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources and that sources are not just written records.
 Understand controversy surrounding artefacts and how different historical opinions are developed.

Local Links:

Not in this unit.

Possible enrichment:

[Visit resource: Benin | British Museum](#)
[Kingdom of Benin - Horniman Museum and Gardens](#)
[Kingdom of Benin - One Day Creative](#)
[Benin Bronzes | Pitt Rivers Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)
[Digital Benin](#)