

Topic Benin



Holy Family Halewood Year 5 and 6 History



What I will focus on in this topic:

To locate Benin civilisation in time and place and discover how the Kingdom of Benin was created.

To use sources to research the beliefs and culture of the people of Benin.

To find out about the significance of the arrival of the Eweka Dynasty.

Explain how the Kingdom of Benin became powerful and how the Empire came to an end.

To compare and contrast the Kingdom of Benin with British History during the same period.

Vocabulary

Trade	Exchange of goods
Oba	The Yoruba word meaning 'King'
Yoruba	the name of the group of people who lived within the area of the holy city of Ife
Ife	The holy city nearby the Kingdom of Benin, ruled by the Yoruba people
Edo	The name of the group of people who lived within the ancient Kingdom of Benin
Eweka	The first Oba of the Kingdom of Benin. He came to power in AD 1180
Benin City	The ancient kingdom of Benin was situated in the South East Coast of West Africa, an area forming part of modern Nigeria. It used to be called Edo and Igodomigodo before that.
Ogiso	The Edo word meaning 'Kings of the Sky'
Igodomigodo	The first unified kingdom.
Archaeology	The study of the buildings, graves, tools and other objects that belonged to people who lived in the past, in order to learn about their culture and society

Important People

Ogiso Igodo	The first king or Ogiso of Benin
Ogiso Owodo	The last of the Igiso kings. He was exiled around 1130
Oba Eweke	The first of a new dynasty of kings called the Obas was crowned in 1180
Oba Oguole	built the Benin City Wall around 1283
Oba Ewuare	expanded the Kingdom greatly and set up the trading links with Portugal 1514
Oba Ovanramwen	the last king of Benin, exiled by British troops after their invasion in 1897

Key Dates

Benin		England	
900 AD 900 - 1400	Benin Kingdom first established when small villagers join together An enormous earthen moat is built around the Kingdom boundaries	889 AD	King Alfred Died Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in Britain (410-1066) Vikings invade Britain (793-1066)
1180 AD	The first dynasty of Ogiso kings ends and the Obas begin their rule.	1154 - 1189	Henry II (Plantagenet)
1283	Oba Oguole built the city of walls of Benin	1272 - 1307	Edward I (Plantagenet) known as the Hammer of the Scots
1440	Benin begins to expand and thrive under the rule of Oba Ewuare the Great.	1421 - 61 1470 - 71	Henry VI (Lancaster) (Wars of the Roses)
1504	Oba Ewuare began to rule the kingdom	1485 - 1509	Henry VII (Tudors 1485 - 1600)
1700	Benin Kingdom enters a period of decline due to a series of civil wars	End of the Royal House of Stuart 1714 Royal House of Hanover 1714	
1897	Benin City is destroyed by British troops and Benin comes under Britain's control.	1837 - 1901	Queen Victoria