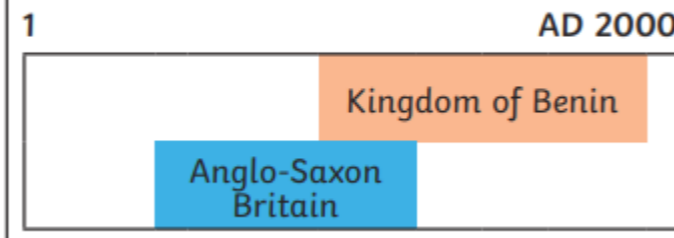


Exploring Benin's big picture of the past—KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Substantive Knowledge:

- To place and describe some historical periods and eras on a timeline.
- To use historic vocabulary to discuss and describe dates, time, periods, eras, chronology and changes.
- To use an increasing range of common words, dates and phrases relating to the passing of time e.g. BC and AD.
- Select information about Africa's past and justify what they consider were its most significant events
- Explain what caused Benin to lose its Bronzes
- To learn how people lived in the Kingdom of Benin
- To learn the effect of trade on Benin people

Timeline



How similar was Benin to Britain at the time?
How well were African people treated in Britain?



Why was Benin worth visiting during Tudor and Stuart times?
Why did sailors go to Benin?

Where is Benin?

What is the history of Africa? (ancestors, trade, slavery)

If objects could speak, what story would they tell?



Benin's bronzes



Should the bronzes be returned?

Key Events

AD 400	The Yoruba people start using iron tools which enable them to clear the forest land effectively for the first time. Villages developed and chiefs emerged.
AD 600	The area becomes the Ife Kingdom, one of the earliest kingdoms in the West African Rainforest.
AD 900	The Kingdom of Benin begins to develop and boundaries are established around the region called Igodomigodo in what is now Nigeria.
AD 1091	The Edo people were ruled by the Ogiso , which means 'kings of the sky.'
AD 1100	The last Ogiso of Igodomigodo, Owodo, dies and there is nobody to rule.
AD 1180	Eweka becomes the new ruler and changes the name Igodomigodo to Edo . He calls himself the Oba .
AD 1300-1700	The 'golden age' of Edo . It has a large, powerful army and skilled craftspeople.
AD 1489	It was only when Portuguese made contact with the Kingdom of Benin that the name 'Benin' began to be used. This name is now widely used to describe the entire civilisation from AD900.



Mappa Mundi—what did they think the world was like?
Where might Africa be?
How likely is it he knew about Benin?



Oba Eweka II reigned from 1200 AD—1235 AD.
How important was his story?



Why did Olfert Dapper visit Benin in 1668?
What can we learn from him about Benin?



Benin Kingdom



Key Vocabulary:

similar a long time ago, history, ancient, century, present, civilisation, chronology, chronological duration, sequence, archaeology, archaeologist, explorer, artefact, animist, brass, Yoruba, Edo, Oba, dynasty, ceremony