

The Kingdom of Benin : History : Year 6

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To find out where the Kingdom of Benin was and about time period we will be exploring.	Children will find out where modern-day Benin is and which countries are near it in West Africa. They will discover that the Kingdom of Benin was located in modern day Nigeria and think about what was happening in Britain during the time of the Kingdom of Benin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know the area of Africa in which Benin was located? Can children order and discuss the main eras and events of the Benin Empire? Can children comment on how the borders of African countries were set? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 1A/1B/1C Timeline Cards 1A/1B Information Sheet 1A/1B Timeline Sheet 1A/1B/1C/1D/1E (FSD? activity only) Selection of history books or internet access
Lesson 2	To explore how we know about The Kingdom of Benin from AD 900 to 1300.	Children will recap when and where the Kingdom of Benin was before gaining a brief overview of the civilisation from 900 to 1300. Children will consider how we know about Benin and what different sources can tell us. They will focus particularly on the difference between archaeological finds and oral histories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children understand the difference between oral histories and archaeological evidence? Can children compare the oral histories and archaeology of Benin? Can children discuss which source they think is most reliable, giving reasons for their choice? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 2A/2B/2C Story Sheet 2A/2B Information Sheet 2A
Lesson 3	To find out about the leaders of The Kingdom of Benin.	Children will consider what we can learn about the leaders of Benin from bronze artefacts. They will find out about the Obas of Benin and the dates and key features of their reigns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know how the Oba was treated in Benin? Do children know what the brass heads were used for? Can children ask and answer questions about artefacts to find out about Benin? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 3A/3B/3C Information Sheet 3A/3B/3C British history books Game Sheet 3A/3B (FSD? activity only) Picture Card 3A/3B (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To find out about the lives of the people of the Kingdom of Benin.	Children will recap what they know about Benin royalty before comparing this with the lives of ordinary people. They will explore different jobs in Benin, including artists, craftsmen and builders. They will make inferences for what everyday life was like at this time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know which jobs people had in Benin? Do children know which crops and animals were farmed in Benin? Can children say what life would have been like for people in Benin? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 4A/4B/4C/4D Information Sheet 4A/4B A range of cookery books or access to the internet Picture Card 4A/4B (FSD? activity only) Accounts of Benin 4A (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 5	To find out about the trade network of the Benin Empire.	Children will explore the effects of different trade routes on the Benin Empire. They will discover what commodities Benin imported in and exported out, and some of the ways in which Europeans carried out trade with Benin. They will identify the importance of trade to the Benin Empire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know some of the items exported by the Benin Empire? Do children know some of the items imported by the Benin Empire? Can children say why trade was important to the Benin Empire? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C Trade Cards 5A/5B (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 6	To find out about the Benin Empire's Golden Age.	Children will identify what a Golden Age and place Benin's Golden Age on a timeline. They will find out some of the reasons why this period is known as the Golden Age and identify key features of the period. They can also compare this with what was happening in Britain at the same time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know when Benin's Golden Age was? Do children know why this time period is described as Benin's Golden Age? Can children come to conclusions about life in Benin based on artefacts? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 6A/6B Statement Card 6A Information Sheet 6A Picture Cards 6A/6B/6C/6D/6E/6F/6G (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 7	To find out about the decline of the Benin Empire.	Children will investigate the decline of the Benin Empire. They will think about the effect of civil war on a civilisation and some of the reasons why Benin's fortunes changed thanks to the abolition of slavery, the 'Scramble for Africa' and other factors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do children know when the Benin Empire began to decline? Do children know why the Benin Empire began to decline? Do children know who destroyed Benin and what the reasons were? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 7A/7B/7C Cause Cards 7A Timeline Sheet 7A Information Sheet 7A/7B/7C