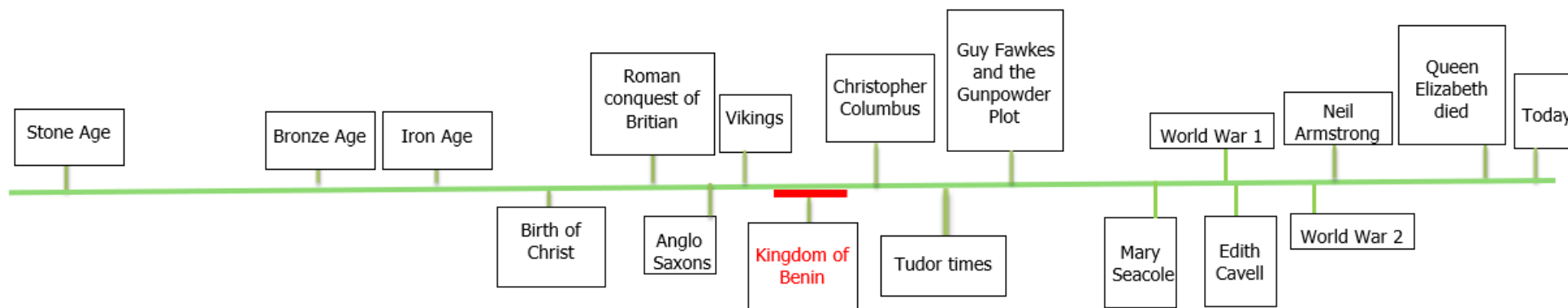


Benin 900-1300AD – Knowledge Organiser Year 6 Spring 1

Timeline



Vocabulary

Sequence of change in the Kingdom of Benin.

Oracle	A person who was believed to pass on advice from Gods to ordinary people.	The ancient kingdom of Benin began as a small group of villages who joined together to improve trading and security.
Dynasty	A line of people from the same family who play an important role.	The first dynasty of kings were called Ogisos. This dynasty ended in 1180AD.
Edo	The name of the group of people who lived within the ancient kingdom of Benin.	Large moats and walls were built around the outside of the kingdom in order to protect it.
Guild	A group of craftsmen or merchants who often had considerable power.	The Edo people believed that their first kings were descended from Osanobua, a god who came down from the sky to create the world.
Ogiso	The Edo word meaning “king of the sky”.	Kings in ancient Benin were treated like Gods
Oba	The Yoruba word for “king”.	The second dynasty of kings were called Obas.
Golden Age	A great time in the past, often of riches and success.	The Obas held a lot of power, including being in charge of law and justice, controlling trade and taxation, and commanding the army.
Barter	To exchange goods or services for other goods or services without using money.	In the 15 th century, European sailors began to sail to Africa and the Kingdom of Benin rose to become a powerful empire in the 16 th and 17 th centuries.

