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| **Subject Specific Vocabulary Geography** | |
| River Niger | The main river of West Africa. It is over 4180km long. |
| natural resources | Materials produced by a specific place that are used to make money. |
| **Subject Specific Vocabulary History** | |
| kingdom | a country, state or territory ruled by a king or queen |
| empire | a territory made up of several places, kingdoms or countries all ruled by one entity (usually a monarch). Empires are usually created by conquering other places. |
| Igodomigodo | The early name for the family groups which became the kingdom of Benin. |
| hereditary succession | The passing of rule onto family members (usually fathers to sons). |
| Ogiso | The title used by early rulers of the Igodomigodo. It means ‘kings of the sky’. It is thought there were around 31 Ogiso rulers. |
| Oba | The title used by Eweka and subsequent rulers. Eweka was from the Yoruba people. Oba is the Yoruba word for ‘king’ |
| Edo | Oba Eweka gave the Kingdom this name. The people became known as the Edo people. |
| Yoruba | The name of the people from the holy city of Ife. Yoruba people and Edo people’s histories are closely linked. |

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| Key Knowledge | |
| Geography | |
| Where is Benin? | Modern-day Benin is located in West Africa. It borders Togo, Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Niger.  The Benin Kingdom developed in what is now called Nigeria. Benin City is still located there. |
| History | |
| How did the Kingdom of Benin start? | In the 900s, the Edo people began to settle in the rainforests of West Africa. Gradually, these small family groups became a kingdom (Igodomigodo). |
| How did the Obas begin ruling? | During the 1100s, the King of Ife sent his son (Prince Oranmiyan) to restore peace to the Edo kingdom. His son, Eweka, became the first Oba. |
| How did Benin become an empire? | In 1440, Oba Ewuare became the new Oba. He built an army and rebuilt Benin City and the royal palace. |
| Who were the warrior kings? | Oba Ewuare was the first of five great warrior kings: Ozolua, Esigie, Orhogbua, Ehengbuda. |
| What was life like in Benin? | Life centred around religious beliefs, a Creator God (named Osanobua) and many other gods that were his children. They also believed in reincarnation and that animals and objects had souls. |
| What was Britain’s role in the empire? | The British Empire wanted control over Benin’s rich natural resources. Eventually, Britain sent over 1000 soldiers to Benin and burned the city to the ground. |
| What was happening in the world at that time? | Queen Victoria ruled the British Empire and celebrated her diamond jubilee in 1897. In 1899, war broke out in South Africa. |



