Benin Kingdom Knowledge Organiser

When did the Benin Kingdom start? 900 AD

Where was the Benin Kingdom?



The Benin Kingdom was located in West Africa in what is now Nigeria.

Ogisas	The first rulers of Benin
Edo	The name of the people that lived in the Benin Kingdom.
civilisation	A group of people with their own languages and way of life.
empire	A group of territories ruled by one single ruler.
griots	West African storytellers.
oral history	Spoken form of history.
archaeology	The study of the past by looking at objects that people left behind.
Oba	A king from the Benin Kingdom
Oba Ewuare	The first warrior king who began the Benin Empire.

Benin Bronzes



A group of several thousand metal plaques and sculptures that decorated the royal palace of the Kingdom of Benin

Benin City	The largest city in the kingdom and the place where the royal palace of the Oba was located.
guild	An association of workers in a particular trade like metal workers.
trade	Buying and selling of goods
slavery	The practice of taking away someone's rights and treating them as property that can be bought and sold
slave trade	West African slaves were sold to Europeans who transported them across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas to work on large farms called plantations.
civil war	A war between citizens of the same country.
colony	A country under the control of another.

Why was Benin so successful? By conquering the lands of their neighbours and trading with European countries.

When did the Benin Kingdom end? 1897 AD

Why did it end? The kingdom was taken over by the British.