

Benin Kingdom 900-1300 CE

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
Oba	The ruler of the Benin Kingdom. They make the rules and are known as the king.
Africa West Africa	Africa is a continent and West Africa is the western area of the continent.
Rule of law	The rule of law is when the law is made by those adults in power which needed to be obeyed. If they were not obeyed then there was likely to be consequences.
Iron	Iron is a type of metal. It comes from the ground and can be melted and used to form weapons, jewellery and instruments to eat with or farm.
Rainforest	A rainforest that had a lot of rainfall. These are in hot climates with tropical creatures that reside there.
Warrior	A warrior is a skilled fighter who can fight for their rulers and gain respect, land and with from their skill at fighting.
Shrines	A shrine is a place where people go to pray to their gods. Usually they have an altar (table) with statues and offerings.
Trade and currency	Trade is when you exchange (swap) an item for either money (currency), a trade (skill) or another item.
Kingdom	A kingdom is an area or land with a border that is ruled over by a monarch (king or queen).



Famous people

- The kingdom of Benin began in the 900s when the Edo people settled in the rainforests of West Africa.
- By the 1400s they had created a wealthy kingdom with a powerful ruler, known as the **Oba**.
- The Obas lived in beautiful palaces decorated with shining brass.
- The people of Benin believed that their Oba was a god. He lived apart from the ordinary people inside the royal court in Benin City.
- The Oba owned all the land in his kingdom. He gave orders to his chiefs on how his kingdom should be run and he decided when his armies should go to war. Sometimes he rode into battle at the head of his troops.

Exciting Books

Diary of An Edo Princess

Benin