

# The Spring Partnership Trust – Knowledge Organiser

History Focus

Benin

Year 4

## When? (Key Knowledge)

900s	Edo people settled in the rainforests of West Africa.
1400s	They had created a wealthy kingdom with a powerful ruler, known as the <b>Oba</b> . The Obas lived in beautiful palaces decorated with shining brass.
1600s	The Obas started to lose control of their people.
1800s	Benin was no longer strong or united.
1897	The kingdom came to a sudden end.
1897	A British army invaded and made it part of the British Empire.

## Background Information

The Republic of Benin is from north to south a long stretched country in [West Africa](#), situated east of [Togo](#) and west of [Nigeria](#). Prior to colonial rule, part of the territory that is now Benin consisted of powerful, independent kingdoms. The British wanted to gain control of Benin so they could get rich by selling its palm oil and rubber.

## What? (Key vocab)

Spelling	Definition
Oba	A hereditary tribal ruler in the Benin region of western Africa.
Scramble for Africa	The invasion, occupation, division, and colonisation of African territory by European powers.
Benin Bronzes	A group of more than a thousand metal plaques and sculptures that decorated the royal palace of the <a href="#">Kingdom of Benin</a> .
Voyage	A long journey involving travel by sea
Dynasty	A series of leaders in the same family

## Diagrams and Symbols



## Who?

Eweka	The first Oba of Benin. Eweka was the first in a long line of Obas.
Olfert Dapper	A Dutch physician and writer. He wrote books about world history and geography, although he never travelled outside the Netherlands.