

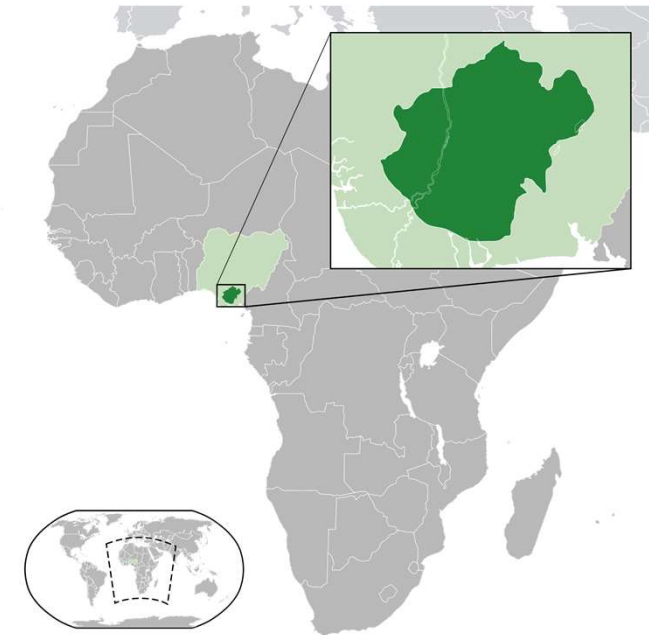
# Benin Kingdom | Year Five | Autumn 1

## Timeline

1	<b>900 CE</b>	Lots of villages join together and make a kingdom known as <b>Igodomigodo</b> , ruled by the <b>Ogiso</b> .
2	<b>c. 900-1460 CE</b>	A huge <b>earthen moat</b> was constructed around the kingdom, stretching <b>16,000km long</b> .
3	<b>1180 CE</b>	The <b>Oba</b> royal family take over from the Osigo, and begin to rule the kingdom. They are treated like Gods.
4	<b>1440 CE</b>	Benin expands its territory under the rule of <b>Oba Ewuare the Great</b> .
5	<b>1470 CE</b>	Oba Ewuare renames the kingdom as <b>Edo</b> , with it's main city known as <b>Ubinu</b> (Benin in Portuguese).
6	<b>1485 CE</b>	The <b>Portuguese</b> visit <b>Edo and Ubinu</b> .
7	<b>1514 CE</b>	Oba Esigie sets up <b>trading links</b> with the <b>Portuguese</b> , and other <b>European</b> visitors.
8	<b>1700 CE</b>	A series of <b>civil wars</b> within Benin lead to the kingdom <b>declining in power</b> .
9	<b>1807 CE</b>	Britain passes a <b>law abolishing the slave trade</b> , which further weakens the kingdom.
10	<b>1897 CE</b>	Benin City (in modern day Nigeria) is <b>destroyed</b> by British troops, and comes under <b>Britain's control</b> .

## Vocabulary

1	<b>Oba</b>	A king, or chief.
2	<b>Ogisos</b>	The first kings of Benin. Ogisos means "Rulers of the Sky".
3	<b>empire</b>	Lots of countries or states, all ruled by one monarch or single state.
4	<b>guild</b>	A group of people who all do the same job, usually a craft.
5	<b>animism</b>	A religion widely followed in Benin.
6	<b>Voodoo (or, Vodun)</b>	The belief that non-human objects have spirits or souls.
7	<b>cowrie shells</b>	A sea shell which Europeans used as a kind of money to trade with African leaders.
8	<b>civil war</b>	A war between people who live in the same country.
9	<b>moat</b>	A long trench dug around an area to keep invaders out.
10	<b>Colonisation</b>	When invaders take over control of a country by force, and live among the people.



## Key Misconception

- 1 The kingdom of Benin is **not** the same as the modern day country called Benin.