

The Maya



Year Group: 6

Subject Focus: History

Term: Summer 1

Key facts

- Mayan cities had similar layouts to each other. They would have a palace for the ruler, a plaza for the market places and temples in the form of pyramids.
- Mayan cities were often found near trade routes and good farmland.
- Mayans were polytheists - believing in many nature Gods or deities.
- Priests were considered the most important people in the Mayan culture, warriors, craftsmen and traders were next in the hierarchy. Farmers, workers and slaves were at the bottom of the hierarchy.
- Mayan merchants traded many goods including; salt, cotton, honey and jade.
- The Mayan calendar (Tzolkin) consisted of 260 days and 13 months.
- The demise of the Mayan civilisation came about because of a mixture of deforestation, land erosion and drought.



We will look at;
how the Mayan civilisation has had an impact on modern society.
times of little change and times of great change.
the ideas, beliefs and attitudes of all groups of people in Mayan civilisation.



Key words:

architecture	The art of planning, designing and constructing buildings
chronology	The order of events in time
civilisation	A human society with its own organisation and culture
continent	A large area of land that covers many countries
culture	Activities such as arts and philosophy - important for the development of civilisation
demise	Something or someone who is at their end or death
drought	A long period with no rain
economy	The wealth that a society or country gets from business or industry
Mayan	Relating to the characteristics of the Maya people and their language
Mesoamerica	Central America - Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize

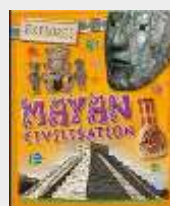
Did you know?

- South America is a continent.
- The climate in South America is different to the UK.
- Other civilisations include the Egyptians and the Greeks.

Exciting books/ web links:

<https://www.dckindout.com/uk/history/mayans/>

https://www.ducksters.com/history/maya/daily_life.php



Parents as partners:

You could do some research online with your child.
Find some interesting facts about the Maya.
Read a story that is connected to the Mayan civilisation.

