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|  | **The Maya** | | | **I:\Cross Gates Primary\Cross Gates Primary LOGO.jpg** |
| **Year Group: 4** | **Subject Focus: History** | **Term: Summer 1** |
| **Key facts**   * Maya 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. * Maya cities were often found near trade routes and good farmland. * Mayas were polytheists – believing in many nature Gods or deities. * Priests were considered the most important people in the Maya culture: warriors, craftsmen and traders were next in the hierarchy. Farmers, workers and slaves were at the bottom of the hierarchy. * Maya merchants traded many goods: salt, cotton, honey and jade. * The Maya 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 Maya 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 Maya 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.dkfindout.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 Maya civilisation. | |