

## Year 4 to 5 – Kingdom of Benin Mini Project

**Over the Summer holidays, we would like you to complete 3 or 4 of the following activities. Be as creative as you want – the best examples will receive a prize when we return to school in September. Bring your work in on the first day back and hand to your new teacher.**

- Research the Kingdom of Benin and create a timeline to show the key events of the era.
- Look at modern day Benin, now known as Nigeria. Create a holiday brochure to highlight the country's beauty and encourage people to visit. What attractions are there? Where could people stay? What is the weather like?
- Find out what life was like in the Kingdom of Benin. What did people wear? What did they eat? What did they do to make a living? Present your findings in a form of your choice.
- Try to find a map of the Benin Kingdom and compare it to a map of the same area today.
- The people of Benin believed in many different Gods, each of them in charge of a different aspect of life and each had their own symbol to identify them by. Can you create your own Benin inspired God? What would they be called? What would they be in control of? What would their symbol be?
- Take a look at the Benin artefacts in the British museum. Have a go at sketching one of them. Pay attention to the shapes and patterns you can see as well as the shading and highlights.
- Imagine you lived in the Benin Kingdom. Write a diary entry about what a day in the life would be like. What would you get up to? Would you be rich and important or a poor slave to the Oba?
- Research how the Benin people would build their houses. Have a go at using natural resources to make your own miniature version. Is it sturdy? Is it waterproof?
- Create a word search or crossword puzzle containing some of the key Benin Kingdom vocabulary you have learnt. Bring your puzzle to school for your friends to solve.
- The Oba was the top of the hierarchy of the Benin Kingdom and they still exist today. Write a list of the similarities and differences between the Ancient and the modern day Obas.

**Don't forget to read as much as possible too! Check out this website for age-appropriate recommendations!**

<https://www.booksfortopics.com>