

Inskip St Peter's C.E. Primary School Knowledge Organiser

History		Years 5 and 6		The Maya
What should I already know?	What historical skills will I learn?	Vocabulary		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient Egyptian period was from 3100 BC to 332BC • Ancient Egyptians had a writing system using hieroglyphics • Ancient Egyptians built pyramids that were sacred tombs • Ancient Greek period was 800BC to 31 BC • Roman period was 800BC to 500 AD 	<p><u>Who were the Mayans and where did they live?</u> The ancient Mayans lived in what is now known as southern Mexico and northern Central America including Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, Yucatán Peninsula and El Salvador. Their descendants still live there today, and many of them speak the Mayan languages.</p> <p><u>Who were the Mayans and were they an advanced civilisation?</u> The Ancient Mayans were the longest standing civilisation around for over 3000 years. They developed an advanced number system and writing system.</p> <p><u>What was life like for the Ancient Maya?</u> Mayan adults worked as farmers, warriors, hunters, builders, teachers and many other things. Children from noble families could learn maths, science, writing and astronomy, but poorer children were only taught their parents' jobs.</p> <p><u>What do we know of the rituals carried out by the Ancient Mayan civilisation?</u> Mayans engaged in many rituals, one being the game of Pok-a-tok (a ball game) but the main ritual being sacrificial, following their religion, worshipping many gods.</p> <p><u>What caused the Mayan Civilisation to disappear?</u> Scholars have suggested a number of potential reasons for the downfall of Maya civilization in the southern lowlands, including overpopulation, environmental degradation, warfare, shifting trade routes and extended drought. ... What is certain is that the Mayans didn't disappear in the aftermath of the collapse.</p>	<p>Archaeologist Archaeology</p> <p>Architecture Chichen Itza</p> <p>City-state</p> <p>Civilisation Deforestation Deity Drought</p> <p>Vigesimal Yax Mutal</p>	<p>someone who studies the past through remains and objects the study of objects and material remains and how they impact human culture</p> <p>the art or practice of designing buildings or monuments. a village in the Yucatan state of Mexico. It is a site of historical and archaeological importance in Mayan academia and is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site</p> <p>a political system where an independent city, ruled by a sovereign or other ruler, serves the centre of a political, economic and cultural life over its surrounding area</p> <p>a human society with its own political organisation and culture if an area is deforested, all the trees are demolished</p> <p>a god or higher being.</p> <p>a period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.</p> <p>number system based on 20s used by the Maya people</p> <p>Also known as Tilak, it is one of the largest archaeological sites and urban centres of the pre-Columbian Maya civilization</p>	
		Resources		
		Search engines	Swiggle.org.uk	kiddle.co.uk
		Websites	kidsearch.com	BBC Bitesize
			mayankids.com	school-learningzone

By the end of Key Stage 2

I will have learnt

- that the Maya developed their own writing and were mathematicians and astronomers (they developed their own number system, writing and calendar), that the Maya worshipped many gods and practised human sacrifice, that we can learn about the Maya from primary sources including the remains of ancient cities in Central America such as Chichen Itza