

Class 6 Subject: History

Mayan Civilization

Project: a study of the achievements of the earliest civilisations

The British Values I will be demonstrating and deepening my understanding of will be: tolerance, rule of law, individual liberty



Vocabulary I should be able to explain and use from this unit...

Civilisation	This is a large group of people who share certain advance ways of living and working - this tends to be people living in larger settlements.
Excavate	This is where earth is removed carefully and material - in this case from the Mayan civilisation - is dug out from the ground
Monument	A monument is a statue, building or other structure which is built to recognise a notable person or event for example the Maya stelae which are tall sculptured stone monuments meant to glorify the king and record his accomplishments
Society	A society is the people who live in a country or region. In society there are different hierarchies within the Mayans.
Nobles	Each city in the Mayan Empire was ruled by a different noble family. They did not appear in public without one of their slaves
Worship	The expression or adoration for a god or goddess

Life Skills

Persistence Well-being Health Resilience
Empathy Respect Responsibility Right and wrong

Metacognition

What am I being asked to do? Which strategies will I use? Are there any strategies that I have used before that might be useful?



History

Mayan civilisation began between 2600BC and 1800BC and ended in 900AD, however there are still indigenous Mayan people living in Central America.

The Mayans lived in Mesoamerica, which is now known as Mexico which lives between the USA and South America, in a region known as Central America – Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, Yucatan Peninsula and El Salvador.

The Mayan empire was organised into city states, of which each state was ruled by a different noble family – these states often traded with each other (sometimes using cocoa beans as money).

K'inich Janaab Pakal was the longest reigning Maya king in history

Many people living in settlements with a central temple/pyramid as a focal point.

The Maya used hieroglyphs to inscribe in stone slabs and in books.

They observed the movement of the sun, moon and stars to create calendars and they created a logical and advanced number system.

Mayan temples were stepped to create a route to the heavens. Their religion was polytheistic (meaning they believed in more than one god). Each god was associated with different areas of life. They also practiced human sacrifice as well as animal sacrifice

Chichen Itza is one of the largest Mesoamerican cities built by the Maya and was an important centre for the ancient Maya. It was thought to be built as early as 400AD. The Kukulcan Pyramid, known as El Castillo (which means castle in Spanish) is a 24-metre-high pyramid which evidences the impressive building skills of the Maya

