

Knowledge Organiser

Prior Learning

Year 1/2- Children will have developed a strong basis of using historical disciplines such as chronology, similarity and difference, cause and consequence and handling historical artefacts. They understand that there is a past within their living memory and a past beyond that.

Year 3/4- Children will have studied the Stone Age to the Iron Age and have a secure knowledge of the chronology of Ancient Britain. Children will know that different civilisations have different cultures. Children will know the chronology of Ancient Britain up until the Romans left. (Elizabeth I, Queen Victorian and Elizabeth II)

Year 5 – Recent studies of the Victorians, crime and Punishment, Ancient Greece and The Second World War

Year 5/6 - History Spring term Mayan Civilisation

Key Skills Taught

- Chronology
- Similarities and differences
- Use of Primary Sources



Key Vocabulary

	Cenote	Sink hole formed by collapse of rock into which Maya threw offerings
	Codex-plural is codices	Collection of manuscript pages held together into early form of book
	Glyph	Written symbol used to present spoken words
	Hieroglyph	System of writing used by ancient Mayas made up of symbols that stand for words or syllables
	Jade	Green stone used to make wonderful jewels
	Obsidian	Black glassy rock formed when volcanic lava cools
	Quetzal	Colourful tropical bird very important to the maya
	Ritual	Act that is always performed in same way as part of a religious ceremony

Key Knowledge Taught: *by the end of the unit pupils are expected to know that / be able to:*

1. In the year 1000 settlements like **Chichen Itza** were among the largest settlements anywhere in the world and **Chichen Itza** is probably the best preserved of any city in the world from this time.
2. After about the year **AD830** very little new construction took place at **Chichen Itza**. The last **glyph** with a date on comes from **AD910**. The reasons why the Mayan declined at that time was probably due to drought and overworking of the soil.
3. The Mayans farmed on land they terraced and made fertile. Their staple diet was maize and even worshipped **maize** as a god. They drank chocolate but not as we know it.
4. They built pyramids with temples on top and even had an amazing astronomical observatory
5. The Maya worshipped many gods and believed they needed offerings of blood.
6. We know about the Maya from their writings in **hieroglyphics**, their advanced number system and the buildings such as the ball court that are still there today.

Extra Information: This can be added to by teacher, parent or child



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