

KS2 History Knowledge Organiser: The Maya (A non-European society that provides a contrast with British History)

Prior knowledge - What I should already know:

KS1 - That historians use different sources to find out about the past. How to use timelines to support chronological understanding. The meaning of significance.

KS2 - What Britain was like between the Stone & Iron Ages. When, where and how other ancient civilisations have developed in the world.

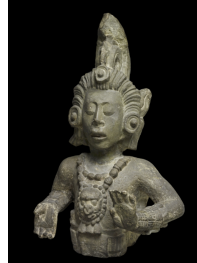
Core knowledge - By the end of this unit, I will be able to:

1. Explain why the Maya are considered a significant civilisation.
2. Understand how a large Mayan civilisation developed and grew in a tropical area of mountains and rainforest.
3. Explain what everyday life was like for the Maya and how it differed for rich and poor.
4. Identify how historians have used different sources to find out about Mayan civilisation and culture.
5. Give reasons for the decline of the Maya from c. 800AD onwards.
6. Compare and contrast Mayan civilisation with that of Britain and elsewhere.

Maya Social Hierarchy



The Maize God

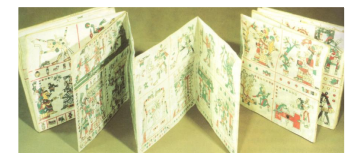


Mayan Numbers

0	1	2	3	4
	•	••	•••	••••
5	6	7	8	9
—	•	••	•••	••••
10	11	12	13	14
— —	•	••	•••	••••
15	16	17	18	19
— — —	•	••	•••	••••



2000BC Civilisations first begin to emerge.	1100BC The hunter-gatherers begin to settle on the Pacific Coast.	800BC Farming begins and a basic trade system develops.	700BC Maya writing begins developing.	100BC The first pyramids/temples are built and cities begin forming around them.	250AD The Classic Era begins. Astronomy, mathematics and architecture are all developing.	800-925AD Chichen Itza becomes the most powerful city.	1000AD The Maya civilisation begins to decline and leave the cities. In the 1500s, the Spanish begin to colonise here.
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Key Vocabulary

Civilisation	A large group of people sharing their own languages and ways of life.
Culture	Shared ideas, beliefs, customs and behaviours of a people or society.
City-State	A city and its surrounding area that has its own king or ruler.
Agriculture	Farming; growing crops or rearing animals.
Hierarchy	A way of ranking things in order of importance or power.
Hieroglyphics	A system of writing that uses pictures not words. Each symbol is a glyph .
Codex (Plural Codices)	An ancient hand-written text. Mayan codices were folded like a concertina.
Temple	A building devoted to the worship of gods or goddesses.
Worship	To have strong feelings of respect and admiration for a god or goddess.
Ritual	A religious ceremony or act.
Sacrifice	To give something as an act of worship.