

Knowledge Organiser History Year 5 Spring

The Mayans



St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
"Love one another as I have loved you"

Prior knowledge

- Understand the chronology of ancient civilisations such as the Stone, Bronze and Iron ages, Ancient Egypt and Ancient Rome.
- Understand that there is a variety of sources that can be used to deduce facts about far history and how to interpret them accordingly.
- Understanding of the location and climate of South America and specifically the biome of the rainforests.

Historical knowledge and skills covered in this topic

- Children will understand how contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed.
- Children will compare ancient and modern day civilisations by exploring similarities and differences. (Maya with Stone-Age Britain and Ancient Egypt.)
- Children will understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.
- Children will understand the way that the Maya lived and research, select, organise and communicate findings.
- Children will count the Base 20 maths system, do simple sums and meaningfully compare the Base 20 maths system with Roman numerals and our own system of numbers.
- Children will know how the Maya fitted within the climate of the area they lived in.
- Children will understand some of the reasons why many Maya died out around 900 AD.
- Children will appreciate the lessons that we can learn from the reasons why the Maya declined around 900 AD.

Key words

- Archaeologist:** someone who digs up remains of old societies
Base 20: a maths system based on 20, not 10 like we use
Codex: the Mayan book
Creation Myth: a story which explains the beginning of the world
Hieroglyphs: writing that is made of pictures
Interpretation: one person's point of view based on evidence
Rainforest: an area of forest that contains many tall trees, has high temperatures and lots of rain
Sacrifice: an offering to keep the gods happy
Stelae: stones or wooden posts that have writing on

Images

