

## Knowledge about The Maya

- ❑ The Maya civilization were people who lived in Central America approximately 2000 BC to 1697. However, people still live in Central America now who are Maya.
- ❑ The Maya civilization spread all the way from central Mexico to Honduras, Guatemala, and northern El Salvador.
- ❑ Settlements like Chichen Itza were among the largest settlements anywhere in the world.
- ❑ Without the use of metal tools, they built huge stone stepped temples.
- ❑ The Maya believed in and worshipped a number of different gods. They had a god of Maize who they worshipped.
- ❑ Maya written language comprised of hieroglyphics and logograms.
- ❑ Maize or corn was the main food of the Maya people and made up to 80% of their diet. They also gave us food such as vanilla, chillies, avocado and tomato.
- ❑ They were clever scientists and astronomers, tracking the stars to allow for healthy crop growth. Adults passed this skill on to their children.
- ❑ The Maya hierarchy consisted of kings, generals, scribes, priests, craftsmen, labourers, farmers, warriors and slaves.

## Subject-Specific Vocabulary

Word	Definition
<b>Tier 1</b>	
❑ Ancient Civilization	The first settled and stable communities that had a common language (spoken and written), important art and architecture, and cities, based upon how people work, social classes, and a system of government.
❑ Archaeologist	A person who studies ancient lives and cultures.
❑ Artefact	An object which has been made or modified by a human.
<b>Tier 2</b>	
❑ Hieroglyph	A picture used to write something.
❑ Nomad	A member of a people that travels from place to place to find fresh pasture for its animals and has no permanent home.
<b>Tier 3</b>	
❑ Codex/ ❑ Codices	A type of book written by the Maya that was created by one long sheet of paper that was then folded like an accordion.
❑ Chichen Itza	A large pre-Columbian city built by the Maya people of the Terminal Classic Period.
❑ Logograms/ ❑ Syllabograms	Different types of glyphs used in Maya writing.
❑ Xocolatl	The Maya word for chocolate meaning 'bitter water'.

## Y5 The Maya



- ❑ The Maya would go into the forest in the dry season and fell a number of trees, leaving them there where they landed. The hot sun would then dry the trees which in turn would be burned. This was slash and burn.
- ❑ The Maya believed that chocolate was a gift from the gods.

## Reading Texts

'The Genius of the Maya' – Izzi Howell  
'The History Detective Investigates Maya Civilization' – Clare Hibbit

## Mayan Civilisation



### Memorable Moments

Children will make corn tortillas and hot chocolate using traditional recipes. Visit from the UK's only Maya archaeologist – Dr Diane.

### Links

Y1/2 – Hot and cold places  
Y3 – Romans  
Y4 - Tudors  
Y5 - Victorians