



The Mayan and the Aztecs



Year 4 - Autumn 2

What's it all about?

This topic explores the ancient Maya civilisation and the tribes of the Aztec people, their timelines and traditions. We will also compare what life was like in Britain during the same period as the Maya civilisation.



Historians: We will be learning about the history and culture of the Maya and the Aztecs, exploring timelines, traditions and examining what life was like in Britain during this time.

Readers: We will be focusing on key learning behaviours such as referring to a text in discussion and building on another answer. Our key text will be 'Harley James: The Mystery of the Mayan Kings'.

Spellers: We will be exploring homophones (e.g. no, know), adding -ation to verbs to form nouns (e.g. explanation, observation), words with the 'c' sound spelt 'ch' (e.g. chemist, stomach), words with the 'sh' sound spelt 'ch' (e.g. chef, machine), the short 'i' sound spelt 'y' (e.g. gym, pyramid), adding the suffix -ion (e.g. action, invention).

Writers: As writers, we will begin the half-term by creating a brochure about Guatemala! After this, we will use our new core text to write a build-up of a story, recount and setting description.

Mathematicians: We will be exploring area and multiplication and division.

Musicians: We will explore the unit 'Composing with Colour' and we will also be learning songs for our Christmas Concert!

Artists: We will create our own Aztec Sun Stone art work.

Scientists: We will be exploring how sounds are made and investigating insulators.

RE: We will explore the unit 'Christian Kingdom'.

Life Skills: In Life Skills, we will explore the 'valuing differences' unit.

Family Learning Ideas: Create a 3D Aztec / Mayan temple, grow Aztec crops e.g. chillies or tomatoes. Visit Cadbury World (Birmingham), Melt Chocolate Kitchen (Notting Hill) or The British Museum (London).

Hermitage Values: Respect - how can we be respectful of our environment?

Trips/Workshops: We will be experiencing a Mexicolore workshop in school on Friday 7th November. We will be performing our Christmas Concert at 9am on Tuesday 16th December.

Inspiring Everyone To Learn