

History- Maya

Year 6

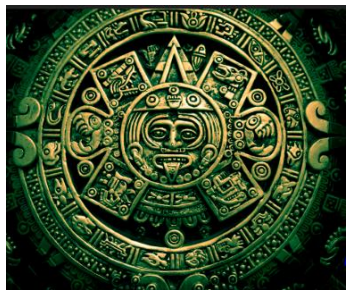
National Curriculum programme of study:

Pupils should be taught:

- A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history– Maya civilization c. AD 900
- Mayan civilisation c. AD 900
- Why people and events from a particular time in the past were important, placing them within a historical sequence.

'Sticky' Knowledge

- The ancient Egyptians built their pyramids about 2000 years earlier than the Maya.
- The Maya pyramids were mainly used for presenting ceremonies.
- Maya originally descended from Russia and settled in rainforests in Mesoamerica.
- Maya kings and queens, priests and noble merchants and craftspeople, peasants and farmer believed in gods and sacrifice heavens, moon, sun, rain, forests, animals.
- Maya were well-known for their advanced maths and calendars.
- The Maya civilisation certainly diminished. Historians think the decline started as a result of deforestation, wars and a severe drought.
- Maya people still live and go about their daily lives, just like we do.



Maya Numbers

The Maya developed an advanced number system for their time. They were one of only two cultures in the world to develop the concept

| | |
|---|----|
| 0 | -0 |
| 1 | -1 |
| 5 | -5 |

The number system used three symbols in different combinations.



The Maya built cities, pyramids and ornate sculptures in the rainforest.

Key Vocabulary

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Civilisation | a group of people with their own languages and way of life. |
| Mesoamerica | is a classification that is not defined by geography or languages, rather by the presence of cultural traits. |
| Settlements | are places where people live and sometimes work. |
| Sacrifice | Is an act of offering to a deity |
| Polytheists | People/ Greeks that believed in many gods.? |
| Codex | Ancient handwritten text. |
| City state | An independent sovereign city which serves as the of political, economic and cultural life over a contiguous territory. |

Prior Knowledge

Children will have prior knowledge of the Roman Empire and it's impact on Britain. Anglo-Saxon settlement and Viking struggle for Britain.

Future Learning:

In DT, children will learn how to create their own codex tile using clay to scribe their glyphs.

