

Year 5- Maya Mysteries

Driving Question: What was culture like in Mesoamerica and what was its influence like on chocolate?

Excite:

Classroom to be decorated in a Mesoamerican theme by printing out images of gods or changing the room into a tropical climate. Children to sample examples of classic Mesoamerican cuisine and play a traditional ballgame.

Key Vocabulary:

Aqueduct	City state	Meso	Settlement	Cacao	Civilisation	Codex
Conquest	Hernan Cortes	Mesoamerica	Pagan	Hieroglyph	Scribe	Tenochtitlan

Key dates:

750 BC- The first Maya cities developed
 250 BC- First inscription in Mayan hieroglyphs
 100 BC- First city states appear
 219 AD- King Yax Moch Xok is first King of Tikal
 292 AD- First stelae carving at Tikal
 420 AD- Growth of city of Copan under Yax K'uk Mo
 615-613 AD- Rule of King Pakal of Palenque
 800 AD- City of Tikal has up to 100,000 residents
 800-900 AD- Building of stepped pyramid of Chichen-Itza
 822 AD- City of Copan deserted
 869 AD- City of Tikal abandoned
 909 AD- Last recorded inscription of classic Maya

Curriculum coverage:

History	Vocabulary; Chronology; Historical Enquiry and Sources; Similarities, Differences and Connections
Geography	Britain; The Wider World; Similarities and Differences; Physical Geography; Human Geography; Location and Maps; Fieldwork
Science	States of Matter; Light; Working Scientifically
Art	Materials; Tools; Design Criteria; Design Ideas; Food and Cooking
DT	3D sculpting; Design Techniques; Developing Ideas; Drawing

Writing opportunities:

- Story
- Non-chronological report
- Chocolate explanation
- Marketing persuasion

Exhibit:

A walk through Mesoamerica: an interactive timeline exhibition. Pupils to set up their interactive timeline exhibition in a corridor or school hall. Visitors to walk through interacting with the timeline (including key date, facts imagery and clips), speaking to pupils who are in a roll as people from Mesoamerica as tour guides. Students can also setup a chocolate area in their exhibition where the provide guests with homemade chocolate and showcase a film that shows the process of chocolate being made.

