



Geography Focus	MEXICO AND MAYANS	Class 3 and 4	Spring Term 2 Cycle 2
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Where? (Key Knowledge)	
Guatemala	Guatemala City
Honduras	Tegucigalpa (Tegus)
Mexico	Mexico City
El Salvador	San Salvador
Belize	Belmopan

What? (Tier 3 - key vocab)	
Spelling	Definition
Mesoamerica	- The land in between North and South America
Conquistadors	- Spanish explorers Natives Local inhabitants (people who live in a place)
Artefacts	- An object made by a human being which is of cultural or historical interest
City state	- A city with its own king who was in complete control over his subjects
Hieroglyphs	- A system of writing which uses pictures to represent words or sounds
Epigraphers	- People who studied hieroglyphs until they understood what they meant

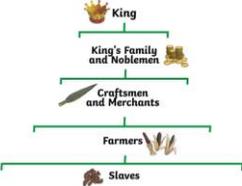
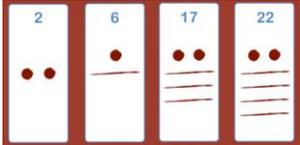
Background Information
<p>The Maya lived in the continent of North America in an area that is referred to Central America. When the Spanish conquistador 'discovered' the Americas and conquered the native people they brought their way of life with them. The area came under the control of the Spanish. This meant that they brought their religion, language and culture with them.</p> <p>The conquistadors thought that the native people were heathen savages who needed to be taught how to live a civilised life. They tried to teach the Maya to abandon their traditions and instead adopt a European culture.</p>
<p>Mayan culture was well established by 1000 BCE and lasted until 1697 CE. The lives of the ancient Maya centred around their religion and gods of nature.</p>
<p>The Maya people made significant advancements in mathematics and astronomy. The Mayans developed a written language of hieroglyphs</p>
<p>Mexico is located in South America over 5000 miles away. The time difference is 6 hours behind the UK.</p>
<p>Mexico is famous for its cuisine, ancient temples, glorious coastline and for being the birthplace of chocolate!</p>

Diagrams and Symbols







10 Mayan Gods

Itzamna is a creator god who was one of the creators of human beings

Kinich Ahau is the sun god

Ix Chel is the goddess of medicine and midwifery

Chaac is the god of rain and storms

Ah Bolon Tzacab is the god of farming who is also associated with royal power

Buluc Chabtan is the god of war, violence and sudden death

Hun Hunahpu is the god of maize

Awilix was the goddess of night and the moon

Bahlam is the jaguar god of the underworld

Colel Cab is the goddess of bees

Who?	
<p>K'inich Janaab Pakal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the longest reigning Maya king in history.
<p>Hernan Cortès</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish explorer sailed to Mexico and fought to take over the Aztecs