

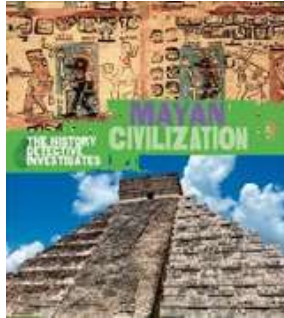


Year 5 - Meet The Mighty Maya – Knowledge Mat

Spring 2

Topic Vocabulary	Key Knowledge	
Artefact - an object (e.g. a tool) made by a person, especially one that's of historical interest.	Where did they live? Southern Mexico and northern Central America including Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, Yucatán Peninsula and El Salvador. Their descendants still live there today, and many of them speak the Mayan languages.	What do we know of their rituals? They enjoyed the game of Pok-a-tok (a ball game) but the main ritual being sacrificial, following their religion, worshipping many gods.
Calendar - a printed table that shows the days, weeks and months of the year.		
Cenote - a sinkhole (pit) with water at the bottom.		
Civilisation - human society that is organised.	Who were the Maya and were they an advanced civilisation? The Ancient Maya were the longest standing civilisation around for over 3000 years. They developed an advanced number system and writing system.	What caused the Mayan Civilisation to disappear? Scholars have suggested a number of potential reasons for the downfall of Mayan civilization in the southern lowlands, including overpopulation, environmental degradation, warfare, shifting trade routes and extended drought. ... What is certain is that the Maya didn't disappear.
Kingdom - a place ruled by a king, queen or important person.		
Maize - corn		
Mesoamerica - a historical region and cultural area in North America. It extends from approximately central Mexico through Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica.	What was life like for the Ancient Maya? Jobs = farmers, warriors, hunters, builders, teachers and many other things. Children from noble families could learn maths, science, writing and astronomy, but poorer children were only taught their parents' jobs.	
Ritual - a religious ceremony in which actions are performed in a set order.		
Sacrifice - an act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to a deity (ruler or god).		
Links to Prior Learning Innovation - Just like the Ancient Egyptians, the Mighty Mayans built amazing temples and had their own writing and number system! 		Key text 
		Enquiry Question: Why should we remember the Maya?

