

Bill Quay Primary School: Knowledge Organiser

Year 4

Unit: The Mayans

What I should already know:

- The key events in British history up until 1066.
- The human and physical features of South America.
- What life was like in Anglo-Saxon Britain

By the end of this unit, I will know:

- The ancient Maya civilisation lasted for more than 2000 years.
- The Maya lived in central America in a rainforest area known as Mesoamerica.
- Mayan society was organised into city states.
- Each city had its own king and cities would often fight with each other.
- Mayan houses were just one room and were made of mud or stone with a thatched roof.
- The Maya had an advanced system of writing.
- They were clever scientists and studied the stars.
- The Maya built massive stone-stepped pyramids.



Vocabulary

Archaeology	The study of things that people made, used or left behind.
Architecture	The design of buildings.
Climate	The general weather conditions typical of a place.
Culture	The food, language, clothing, music and art of a society.
Deforestation	The clearing or cutting down of forests.
Deities	Gods
Drought	When it hasn't rained for a long time.
Erosion	The process of the land been worn away by the weather, water or ice.
Famine	When there is no food.
Fertile	Rich in nutrients
Hierarchy	
Indigenous	The first people who lived in that region.
Merchant	A person who buys and sells goods
Mesoamerica	Central America.
Plaza	A public square in a city or town.
Polytheists	People who worship more than one god.
Society	A group of people with common traditions.
Trade	To buy and sell goods.

