

## Otter Class History (The Maya Civilisation)

This term in Otter Class, we are learning about the **Maya Civilisation** (not Mayan!). As part of this, children should learn to do the following things: be familiar with the remarkable achievements of the ancient Maya, the Maya perspective of time, the calendar system, writing, maths and the environment. In doing so they should see the stark contrast between their own history and that of the Maya. Pupils should be aware of the different (though not inferior) ways of doing things and the complexity of human life. Below are some suggested activities for you to do with your child to support their learning in this area. All resources are available on our school website: <https://www.highlittletonschool.com/> under Home Learning / Otter Class/ History. Please feel free to choose as many as you like and to come up with your own ideas.

<p><b>Where and when did the Maya live?</b></p> <p>The Maya civilization ran from 2000BC until the arrival of the Spanish in the 16th century. They lived in what is now Southern Mexico, Belize and Guatemala.</p> <p>Go to the website and read a short passage and then watch a short video:</p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/pupils/the-maya-world/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/pupils/the-maya-world/</a></p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2018/12/15/where-did-the-maya-live/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2018/12/15/where-did-the-maya-live/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6eBJdca14">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6eBJdca14</a></p>	<p><b>What was Maya writing like?</b></p> <p><b>Hieroglyphs-</b> They used about 800 symbols to create writing, often on folded pages forming a book (codex).</p> <p><b>Glyphs-</b> Symbols used in Maya writing.</p> <p>Go to the website and read a short passage and then watch a short video:</p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2019/02/18/what-was-maya-writing-like/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2019/02/18/what-was-maya-writing-like/</a></p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/resources-on-the-maya/maya-language/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/resources-on-the-maya/maya-language/</a></p> <p>You can read through Maya Writing Powerpoint and then read Fact Cards and complete the Writing Fact Hunt worksheet.</p>	<p><b>How did the Maya tell the time?</b></p> <p><b>Astronomy-</b> The Mayans were able to predict solar eclipses and used observatories and shadow-casting devices.</p> <p><b>Calendar-</b> These were circular and charted the movements of the sun, moon, stars and planets, with 365 days in a year.</p> <p><b>Kin</b> - Word representing a day in the Maya calendar.</p> <p><b>Uinal</b> - Word for a month in the Maya calendar, it was 20 days long.</p> <p>Go to the website and read a short passage and then watch a short video:</p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2019/02/18/how-did-the-maya-tell-the-time/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2019/02/18/how-did-the-maya-tell-the-time/</a></p>	<p><b>What numbers did the Maya use in Maths?</b></p> <p>The Mayans were excellent mathematicians and astronomers. Number system was a base 20 system, they used dots and bars to create numbers and had a symbol for zero. They used this expertise to make calendars.</p> <p>Go to the website and read a short passage and then watch a short video:</p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2019/02/18/how-did-the-maya-add-and-subtract/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2019/02/18/how-did-the-maya-add-and-subtract/</a></p> <p>You can read through the Maya Number System Powerpoint and then workout some Maya calculations.</p>
<p><b>Did the Maya play football like us?</b></p> <p>Go to the website and read a short passage and then watch a short video:</p> <p><a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2018/12/15/where-did-the-maya-live/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/2018/12/15/where-did-the-maya-live/</a></p>	<p><b>How do we know about the Maya?</b></p> <p>Read through Exploration and Discovery Powerpoint. Then choose <b>one</b> task to complete:</p> <p>1. Complete Using Source of</p>	<p><b>What did Maya people eat?</b></p> <p>Read through Food Powerpoint and then research chocolate and corn, which were significant and precious foods in ancient Maya, in more detail and decide which you think is most</p>	<p><b>What did Maya believe?</b></p> <p>Mayan religion was bloodthirsty, demanding human sacrifices and bloodletting rituals. The Mayans believed in the afterlife and that those who were sacrificed, as well as those</p>

### Otter Class History (The Maya Civilisation)

<p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/zbqyy4j">2/17/did-the-maya-play-football/https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/zbqyy4j</a></p> <p><b>Pok-a-tok-</b> A game where large rubber balls were aimed at stone hoops. Losers were sometimes sacrificed to the gods!</p>	<p>Evidence worksheet.</p> <p>or</p> <p>2. Complete Historical Picture Study using Frederic Catherwood Photopack.</p>	<p>important. You can use Corn vs. Chocolate worksheet.</p> <p>This video might also be useful:</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/zd844qt">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/zd844qt</a></p> <p><b>Maize</b> -The staple food of the Mayans which was so important that they even had a maize god.</p>	<p>who were killed in war and women who died in childbirth, went to ‘the place of the misty sky’.</p> <p>Watch the video: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/z2gkk2p">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/z2gkk2p</a></p> <p><b>Itzamna-</b> The main god of the Maya, the god of fire who created the Earth.</p> <p><b>Kukulcan</b> - The serpent god of the Maya. One of the primary gods, especially to the Itza peoples of Chichen Itza.</p> <p><b>Sacrifice-</b> Humans and animals were used as a blood offering to gods, mostly war prisoners by decapitation or heart removal.</p> <p><b>Pyramids-</b> Built with a temple at the top to give sacrifices to the gods, others were built for the gods themselves.</p> <p>You can read through Gods and Religion Powerpoint and then create a God Fact file.</p>
<p>Create a <b>fact file</b> of key events (a timeline). It's up to you whether you draw it in your book or create a PowerPoint presentation slide. There is also a timeline activity available (organise events in chronological order).</p> <p>You must have an understanding of the</p>	<p>Watch short clips on BBC Bitesize: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw</a></p> <p>Choose the ones that spark your interest.</p> <p>Then test your Maya Civilisation</p>	<p>Investigate <b>Chichen Itza</b> - the Maya most well known pyramid.</p> <p>Watch the videos: <a href="https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/00000144-0a21-d3cb-a96c-7b2d047d0000">https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/00000144-0a21-d3cb-a96c-7b2d047d0000</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clip">https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clip</a></p>	<p>Explore this website to find out more about Maya Civilisation: <a href="http://www.mayankids.com/">http://www.mayankids.com/</a></p> <p>Explore the website and read any articles that might interest you. There is one about chocolate, too. <a href="https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/">https://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk/</a></p>

### Otter Class History (The Maya Civilisation)

<p>chronology of the historical period during which the Mayans lived and be able to recall some key facts about the lives of the Mayan people.</p> <p>You can read through Meeting the Maya Powerpoint.</p> <p>This website might also be helpful:  <a href="http://www.mayankids.com/timeline2.htm">http://www.mayankids.com/timeline2.htm</a></p>	<p>knowledge:</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zn8psrd">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zn8psrd</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zn8psrd">s-video/history-ks2-ks3-what-did-maya-houses-and-buildings-look-like/zbjvrj6</a></p> <p>Read some more facts here:  <a href="https://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/chichen-itza.html">https://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/chichen-itza.html</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.softschools.com/facts/wonders_of_the_world/chichen_itza_facts/75/">https://www.softschools.com/facts/wonders_of_the_world/chichen_itza_facts/75/</a></p> <p>Then draw a poster and add some interesting facts about Chichen Itza.</p>	<p>You can create a document with 10 most surprising facts about the Maya civilisation.</p>
<p><b>How was the Maya society organised?</b></p> <p>At the top of the Maya society was the king and royal family who were believed to be closely linked to the gods. An educated elite of scribes, priests and nobles formed the ruling class. They occupied the finest buildings in the city.</p> <p>Maya society was formed by a number of city states each with their own ruler.  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zv4x6yc">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zv4x6yc</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ks3-what-did-maya-houses-and-buildings-look-like/zbjvrj6">https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ks3-what-did-maya-houses-and-buildings-look-like/zbjvrj6</a></p> <p><b>Ahau or Ahaw</b> - The main king or lord of a Maya city/state.</p> <p><b>Batab</b>- A lesser lord, usually ruling a</p>	<p><b>What did Maya people eat?</b></p> <p>Make Maya corn tortillas or ancient hot chocolate by following some simple recipes (available on our school website).</p>	<p>Watch the video:</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zndq7p3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zg6svcw/articles/zndq7p3</a></p> <p>Then explain what happened to end the Maya civilisation.</p> <p>Then visit the modern Maya population of the Lacandon rainforest:  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z2pfgk7">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z2pfgk7</a></p>	<p><b>Compare</b></p> <p>Maya are a Stone Age society – how similar and how different are they to Stone Age Britain?</p> <p>or</p> <p>Compare similarities and differences with other ancient civilisations previously studied e.g. Ancient Egypt.</p>

### Otter Class History (The Maya Civilisation)

<p>small time.</p> <p><b>Stelae-</b> Stone monuments to glorify a King and record his deeds, although early examples were of mythical astronomy.</p> <p><b>Huipil-</b> A traditional garment worn by Maya women.</p> <p>Devise questions to hot seat (interview) one of the Maya Kings.</p>			
---	--	--	--

#### Conceptual vocabulary:

empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' 'peasantry, invasion/ raid, settlement, kingdom, culture, legacy, conquest , conversion, BC