



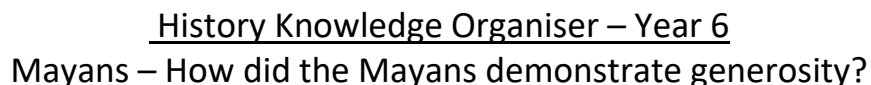
History Knowledge Organiser – Year 6

Mayans – How did the Mayans demonstrate generosity?



Vocabulary	Definition	Picture
cacao beans	Pods that grow on trees. When split open, the insides can be used in the production of chocolate.	
Chichen Itza	A village in the Yucatan state of Mexico: site of important Mayan ruins. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.	
civilisation	An organised society with its own way of life, existing in a particular area over a particular period of time.	
codices	Ancient handwritten texts. Maya codices could be unfolded like a concertina. One text is called a codex.	
jaguar	A big cat, heavier than a leopard, with yellowish fur and black spots.	

Vocabulary	Definition	Picture
logograms	Pictures that represent a word in Mayan writing	 AK'AB OCH K'IN IK' ahk'ab och'kin ik' "darkness" "sun entry" "wind" "night" "west" "air" "breath"
maize	Another word for sweetcorn or corn on the cob. It can be made into a dough and baked into tortillas.	
Mesoamerica	Central America – consisting of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica	
syllabograms	Pictures that represent a word, split into syllables, in Mayan writing	
temple	A building devoted to the worship of a God or Gods.	



I know the Mayans were around between 2000 BC until 1500 AD.

I know the Mayans developed their own writing system of logograms.

I know the Mayans developed their own number system using sticks, shells and stones.

I know the Mayans lived in an area called Mesoamerica which covered Mexico and northern parts of central America.

I know the Mayans had a simple diet, which included Maize, beans, hunted animals and avocado.

I can name key Mayan cities such as Chichen Itza, Coba, Uxmal and Palenque.

Map



Number System

0	1	2	3	4
	•	••	•••	••••
5	6	7	8	9
	•	••	•••	••••
10	11	12	13	14
	•	••	•••	••••
15	16	17	18	19
	•	••	•••	••••

Key Events

2000BC
Civilisations first begin to emerge.

1100BC
The hunter-gatherers begin to settle on the Pacific Coast

800BC
Farming begins and a basic trade system develops.

700BC
Maya writing begins developing.

100BC
The first pyramids / temples are built and cities begin forming around them.

250AD
The Classic Era begins. Astronomy, mathematics and architecture are all developing.

800 – 925AD
Chichen Itza becomes the most powerful city.

1000AD
The Maya civilisation begins to decline and leave the cities. In the 1500s, the Spanish begin to colonise here.

Timeline

3500 BC

AD 1

AD 1500

Ancient Egypt

Ancient Rome

Maya Civilisation

Anglo-Saxon Britain →