



The Maya Civilisation

Knowing More, Remembering More

Remembering previous learning

What are some key differences between the periods of the Stone Age, and why do you think these changes happened? Changes between these periods happened because people learned new skills and tools, like farming, which made their lives better and different.

What were some important things that people learned to do during the Stone Age, and do you think they got much better at living back then? During the Stone Age, people learned to make tools, hunt animals, and grow food. They got much better at surviving and living together.

How can a timeline help us learn about Ancient Egypt and other civilisations, and how do they compare? A timeline shows when Ancient Egypt, Sumer, the Indus Valley, and the Shang Dynasty existed. The Nile helped Egypt with farming, just like rivers helped Sumer and the Indus Valley. Egypt was successful with strong leaders and builders, similar to the Shang Dynasty.

What do we know about Ancient Egyptian religion, and why was it important to them? Ancient Egyptian religion was very important

Historical Figures:



Explorer John Lloyd Stephens

Knowing More, Remembering More

Knowing more in Y6

How do the Maya people live today, and how can we use this to learn about their history? The Maya people live in places like Mexico and Guatemala, where they have their own unique traditions, languages, and cultures. By looking at how they live today, such as their farming methods and celebrations, we can understand more about how they lived in the past.

What can we learn about the Maya and their cities using archaeological evidence? Archaeological evidence reveals that the Maya lived in over 60 city-states, ruled by kings and queens like Lady K'abel. By studying ruins, we find palaces, temples, and pyramids at the city centres, as well as homes for the rich and poor. Wealthy people lived in strong limestone houses near the centre, while poorer families lived in simpler wooden homes further away.

Why did the Maya have many gods, and why is their creation myth important? The Maya had many gods because they believed these gods controlled nature, like the sun and rain. Their creation myth is important as it explains how the world and humans were made. This is similar to other cultures, which also create stories to explain their beginnings.

What did we learn about Maya technology and culture, and how advanced were they compared to other societies? The Maya had impressive technology,

In this unit children will develop these skills

- 6.1 Establish clear narratives within and across the periods they study. Note connections, contrasts and trends over time. Combine overview and depth studies to help pupils understand both the long arc of development and the complexity of specific aspects of the content.

Key learning steps

- To use evidence to reach conclusions about the lives of the Maya in the past and the present.
- To reach conclusions about the Maya by investigating their ancient cities, and to understand why the cities remained hidden for so long.
- To know and understand why religion was important to the Maya.
- To investigate Maya technology and culture and reach a conclusion on how advanced Maya society was.

Key vocabulary:

Religious, social, economic, cultural, political, civilisation, pyramid, temple, conclusion, evidence, reconstruction, archaeology, city state, sacrifice, Meso-America, nobles, creation, hierarchy, sacrifice, bloodletting, conquistadors, technology, culture, glyphs,

