

History Knowledge Organiser

Rainforest Realms

Year 5

Our learning

In our history lessons this term we will be learning about the Ancient Mayans. We will be considering how the **civilisation** developed over time and the important features of their lives.

We will consider the **similarities and differences** between this and other ancient civilisations whilst developing our understanding of the **causes and consequences** of different events through this period in history.

Information

The ancient Mayans lived until around 900AD. They were an advanced civilisation who had started to farm the land and even used maths.

They lived in a place called Mesoamerica

The Mayans were inventors and made their own calendar; farming processes and writing system.

Each city had a ruler who got their power from god. They believed their rulers could speak to the gods. Sacrifices were made to keep their gods happy

They were excellent builders and invented 'zero'

No one really knows what wiped out the Ancient Mayan civilisation.

Vocabulary

Mesoamerica- parts of modern day Mexico and central America.

Temple pyramids- the focus of every Mayan city. Used as a place of worship and somewhere to bury dead

Agriculture- the practice of farming and growing crops

Sacrifice- offering something to a god. This could have been an object, an animal or even a human!

Inventor- someone who creates something new

Important Dates

800BC- Groups gathered and settled in Mesoamerica

700BC-Mayan writing is developed

400BC- Earliest calendars carved in stone

300BC- Temple pyramids begin to be built

Mayan calendar



2000BC



3000BC

Mayan Gods



Temple pyramid

AD1000

AD2000

