

Class 4: Mexico and the Mayans Knowledge Organiser

Key Facts

Mexico is located in South America over 5000 miles away. The time difference is 6 hours behind the UK.



Mayan culture was well established by 1000 BCE and lasted until 1697 CE.

The Mayan believed that they could communicate with their gods through human sacrifice.

The lives of the ancient Maya centred around their religion and gods of nature.

The Mayans developed a written language of hieroglyphs.

Mexico is famous for its cuisine, ancient temples, glorious coastline and for being the birthplace of chocolate!



The Maya people made significant advancements in mathematics and astronomy.

Key Vocabulary

Cuisine- a style of cooking
Tribe- a social group in a traditional society consisting of people with the same language, culture, religion etc.
Sacrifice- the act of giving up something important to you to get or do something more important
Legacy- something that is left behind after death

Key Questions

Where in the world is Mexico?
 How far is Mexico? What is the time difference?
 Why visit Mexico?
 How do Mexico and the UK compare?
 Who were the Mayans?
 What was life like for the Mayans?
 What did the Mayans believe?
 Why did the Mayans make sacrifices?
 Why did the Mayans disappear?
 What is the Mayan Legacy?
 Where would we place the Mayans in time?

Key Skills

Prepare and make a Mexican food product.
 Locate a country in an atlas using longitude and latitude.
 Understand world time zones.
 Write a newspaper report.
 Investigate how materials are used to keep people cool.
 Write a historical diary entry.
 Order events chronologically on a timeline.
 Write a travel guide.