

# Year 5 How did the achievements of Maya Civilisation impact their society and beyond?

## Unit outcomes and Rationale

- I will describe the key physical features of the Maya civilisation and sequence the key periods.
- I can identify the periods that were happening in Britain at the same time.
- I can explain how the Maya settled in the rainforest and the challenges faced.
- I can explain and evaluate the reasons for the decline of the Maya civilisation.

This builds on our learning from Year 3 and 4 when we learnt about the achievements of the Romans and Vikings and their impact on their societies and the world around them.



← ←

Ancient Maya  
God statue

← ←



→ →

Ancient  
Maya city

→ →



← ←

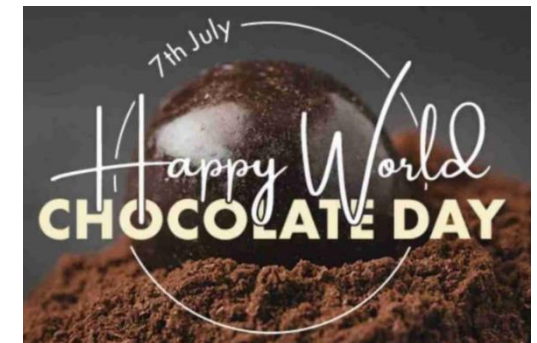
Maya used  
cocoa beans

← ←

→ →

Chocolate is  
now  
eaten all over  
the world

→ →



## Important things I will know:

- The Ancient Maya civilisation is first recorded in 2,000 BCE and lasted until 1524 CE.
- The Maya civilisation existed in modern day Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador.
- Mesoamerica was a region in Central America, stretching from central Mexico to Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and northern Costa Rica.
- Cacao was very important in Mesoamerica. A food that symbolised wealth, power and spirituality.
- Mayans developed the concept of 'zero' which enhanced their maths.

## Disciplinary concepts

- Change and continuity.
- Cause and consequence.
- Historical significance.
- Sources of evidence.
- Historical interpretations.






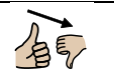



## Historical enquiry

- Posing historical questions.
- Gathering, organising and evaluating evidence.
- Evaluating and drawing conclusions.
- Communicating findings.

## Substantive concepts

- Power (monarchy, government and empire).
- Beliefs.
- Civilisation (social and cultural).
- Trade.
- Achievements and follies of mankind.

## Important vocabulary I will learn and use

|               |  |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| archaeologist | A significant accomplishment or contribution that had a lasting impact   |  |
| archivist     | Someone who takes care of important documents and records, making sure they are safely kept and can be looked at in the future.  |  |
| civilisation  | A large group of people with a common language, way of life and governance.  |  |
| creation      | Something being made   |  |
| currency      | The type of money that a country uses for buying and selling goods and services.   |  |
| decline       | To grow weaker or smaller.   |  |
| Mesoamerica   | A historical region in Central America made up of the modern-day countries of northern Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize and central to southern Mexico |  |
| ritual        | A set of actions or ceremonies performed in a fixed way, sometimes for religious purposes.   |  |
| theory        | An idea that is intended to explain facts or events, often based on some evidence.   |  |

## Timeline

