Aztecs : History : Year 5/6



	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To find out who the Aztecs were and when they lived.	In this lesson the children will investigate the origins of the Aztec empire and how it began. They will learn about how the legend of an eagle marked the promised land of the Aztecs and the beginning of the city of Tenochtitlan. They will also place the Aztec age on a timeline of human history.	 Do children know when the Aztecs lived? Do children know where the Aztecs lived? Can children place the Aztecs on a timeline? 	 Slides Timeline Cards Picture Cards Books, internet, etc. (optional) World History Timeline sheet (FSD? activity only) Worksheet 1A/1B (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To find out how the Aztecs built the city of Tenochtitlan.	The children will explore how the Aztecs created a successful and thriving city despite some difficult challenges when building the city of Tenochtitlan. They will investigate the use of aqueducts, chinampas, canals and how conquering neighbouring lands helped the city develop into one of the biggest cities in the world at the time.	 Do children know that the capital of the Aztec empire was called Tenochtitlan? Can children describe some of the challenges faced by the Aztecs when building the city of Tenochtitlan? Can children identify and describe some of the features of Tenochtitlan? 	 Slides Worksheet 2A/2B Description Cards Tenochtitlan Glossary (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To investigate how Aztec society was organised.	This lesson explains the structure of Aztec society and how a person's place in society would affect how they were treated by others. The children will think about the importance of each position and how you could tell this from their clothing and homes.	 Do children know that the Aztecs had an emperor whom they believed to be descended from a god? Can children describe some of the important people in Aztec society? Do children know how the ordinary Aztec people were organised into calpullis? 	 Slides Worksheet 3A/3B/3C/3D Picture Cards (FSD? activity only) Books and the internet, etc. (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To find out what the Aztecs believed and how this impacted on their lives.	The children will discover the gruesome world of Aztec religions, including their use of human sacrifice to appease their multiple gods. They use their researching skills to learn about the different gods that were worshipped and how they were worshipped in Aztec society.	 Do children know that the Aztecs worshipped many different gods? Can children explain some of the religious ceremonies of the Aztecs and their significance? Do children understand why the practice of human sacrifice was important to the Aztecs? 	 Slides Information Sheet Picture Cards Deity Database Question Cards Acrostic Poem Sheets (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 5	To investigate what daily life was like for the Aztecs.	Children investigate the daily lives of an Aztec person, including finding out about food, clothes, homes, markets and leisure activities. They use the information they learn to record facts and sort them into categories.	 Can children ask questions about the Aztecs that they would like to find the answer to? Can children use a variety of sources of information to find out the information they need? Can children present the information they have found out in a variety of ways? 	 Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C Books and access to internet, etc. Challenge Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 6	To find out about the fall of the Aztec empire.	Children learn the reasons behind the fall of the Aztec empire including the invasion of Cortés and the conquistadors. The children have the opportunity to debate over the two groups' beliefs to decide who they thought was right.	 Can children describe the chain of events that led to the end of the Aztec civilisation? Do children know that the past is viewed in different ways by different people? Can children describe their own views and opinions about historical events? 	 Slides Worksheet 6A/6B/6C/6D/6E Information Sheet (FSD? activity only)