

# The Maya Civilisation : History : Year 3/4

HISTORY				
	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To understand how we know about the ancient Maya civilisation.	In this first lesson, children will discover where and when the ancient Maya civilisation developed. They will learn how historians and archaeologists have used the temples, pyramids stone monuments and other artefacts left by the Maya to find out about their society and way of life. Children then apply their understanding by studying a range of historical artefacts and interpreting what these reveal about the past.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know when and where the ancient Maya civilisation developed?</li> <li>Can children name and discuss some of the sources that historians and archeologists study to find out about the ancient past?</li> <li>Can children discuss the nature and usefulness of a range of sources?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Artefact Cards</li> <li>Question Cards</li> <li>Connection Cards (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
Lesson 2	To find out how the society of the ancient Maya was organised.	Now children understand the context of the ancient Maya civilisation, they will learn about how its society was governed and organised. Children will learn about the Maya city-states, their social hierarchy and the roles, power and status of each social group. Then, children will reflect on how people's lives and experiences would have differed according to their social group and why we have more information about the lives of some social groups than others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know that the ancient Maya lived in city-states ruled by powerful ajaws?</li> <li>Can children identify and name the different social groups with ancient Maya society?</li> <li>Can children discuss how the daily lives and experiences of the ancient Maya varied based on their social group?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Social Pyramid</li> <li>Pyramid 2A/2B/2C</li> <li>Palenque Map (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Information Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Visitor Guide Template (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Building Notes (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
Lesson 3	To find out about the religious beliefs of the ancient Maya.	Children begin this lesson by generating questions they have about the religious beliefs and practices of the ancient Maya. They will develop their understanding of the role that gods and goddesses played in different areas of the daily lives of the Maya and explore the different ways that the Maya worshipped their deities. Children apply their understanding by designing their own deity for modern times or by reenacting the Maya creation story.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know that the ancient Maya believed in multiple deities?</li> <li>Can children discuss some of the religious beliefs and practices of the ancient Maya?</li> <li>Can children discuss how the religious beliefs and practices of the ancient Maya varied based on their social group?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Deity Cards</li> <li>Information Sheet</li> <li>Design Sheet</li> <li>Extension Sheet</li> <li>Maya Creation Story (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Story Planner (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
Lesson 4	To find out about the achievements of the ancient Maya.	In this lesson, children will learn about the achievements of the ancient Maya, including their writing and number systems and the development of accurate calendars based on their astronomical observations. They will consider the significance of these achievements and how their impact on future societies and generations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know that the ancient Maya had their own calendars, writing and number systems?</li> <li>Can children consider what these achievements tell us about the knowledge and skills of the ancient Maya?</li> <li>Can children discuss the significance of these achievements?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Invention Cards 4A/4B</li> <li>Ranking Sheet</li> <li>Glyph Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Clay, boards and tools (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Information Sheet 4A/4B (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Haab Calendar Resources (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Tzolkin Calendar Template (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Maya Maths Challenge 4A/4B/4C (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>

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	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 5	To find out how the Maya civilisation developed over time.	For this lesson, children will learn about the key periods in the development of the Maya civilisation: preclassic, classic and postclassic and will explore themes of change and continuity. They will also learn how to practically construct timelines, including how to use bars to represent periods of time and arrow to mark distinct events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know how historical events and periods are presented and recorded on a timeline?</li> <li>Can children accurately sequence key events in the development Maya civilisation in chronological order?</li> <li>Can children discuss aspects of change and continuity in the Maya civilisation over time?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Timeline Template 5A/5B/5C</li> <li>Event Cards 5A/5B</li> <li>Kaboom Cards (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Kaboom Instructions (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
Lesson 6	To compare and contrast the Maya civilisation with Britain c.900CE.	For this lesson, children will investigate the similarities and differences between the daily lives of people living in the ancient Maya civilisation and Anglo-Saxon England c.900 CE. Children will use research and role-play to find out, compare and contrast what life was like for ordinary citizens in both societies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know some similarities and differences between the ancient Maya civilisation and Anglo-Saxon society c.900CE?</li> <li>Can children use research and role-play to find out what life was like for ordinary people in the ancient Maya civilisation?</li> <li>Can children compare and contrast the experience of the ordinary Maya with the experiences of ordinary Anglo-Saxons c.900CE?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Role Cards 6A/6B</li> <li>Information Sheet 6A/6B</li> <li>Writing Template 6A/6B</li> <li>Example Diary</li> <li>Challenge Card (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>True or False? Cards (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Explanation Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> </ul>
Lesson 7	To investigate the decline of the ancient Maya civilisation.	In the last History lesson of the topic, children will investigate some of the reasons for the decline of the ancient Maya civilisation and its city-states. They will consider different interpretations and perspectives of the historical events associated with the arrival of the Spanish conquistadors in Mesoamerica. Children will also discover that, although the last city-states were abandoned to the jungle in the sixteenth century, the Maya still live in Mesoamerica today.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know some of the causes of the decline of the ancient Maya civilisation?</li> <li>Do children understand that the city-states of the ancient Maya civilisation did not decline all at once?</li> <li>Can children consider the significance of these different causes?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slides</li> <li>Cause Cards</li> <li>Ranking Sheet 7A/7B</li> <li>Storyboard 7A/7B (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Interview Sheet (FSD? activity only)</li> <li>Tablets and green screen (optional)</li> </ul>