

Prior learning:

In Year 3, the children studied the Bronze Age through to the Romans arriving in Britain. The Mayans are a non-European society existing alongside this period of time.



Knowledge Map:

The Mayans
Spring 1- Year 4

Enquiry Question: **If the Mayans were civilised, why did they believe in human sacrifice?**

Next steps in learning:

In Year 6, the children will develop their understanding of the history of the wider world when they study the Shang Dynasty.

Key vocabulary:

ahau or ahaw – the main king or lord of a Mayan city-state

cacao beans – these beans can be dried, roasted and ground

civilisation – an organised society existing in a particular area over a particular period of time

codices – ancient handwritten texts

glyphs – symbols used in the Mayan writing system

Itzamna – the main god of the Maya

maize – another word for sweetcorn or corn on the cob.

ritual – a ceremony, often religious

scribes – people who write things down

Key knowledge:

- I can describe when and where did the Mayans lived
- I can explain about Mayan city states and how society was organised
- I can describe Mayan religion and belief
- I can describe what life was like at the height of the Mayan civilisation
- I can show my understanding of Mayan writing and calendars
- I understand how we know what it was like there 1000 years ago



Year 4 Key Skills:

Chronological understanding

I can describe events from the past using dates when things happened

I can order significant events and dates on a timeline showing an understanding of BC and AD

Historical interpretation

I can explore evidence by studying primary and secondary sources and begin to assess the usefulness of different sources

I know that people in the past represent events and ideas in a way that persuades others

Historical enquiry

I can choose relevant material to present a picture of the past

I can ask a variety of questions about the past and find the answers

Virtues:

Compassionate conscientious

co-operative creative

curious courageous