

History



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| <p>Upper Key Stage 2</p> <p>A</p> | <p>Big Picture Question: Do all people share a history?</p> <p>Context Vocabulary: Mayans, Mesoamerican, Central America, slavery, stepped pyramids, mathematics, calendar, rainforest, trading, human sacrifice, hieroglyphs, city states, Chichen Itza, Tikal, codices, obsidian, quetzal feathers, monuments, ruling class, kings</p> <p>Historical vocabulary: religion, social, technology, society, settlement, growth, decline, resources, rich and poor, compare, civilisation, artefacts, conquest, empire, culture, political, elite, trade, interpretation, hierarchy, cause, consequence, interpretation, analyse, point-of-view, favour, evidence, connection, contrast, similarity, comparison</p> | <p>National Curriculum reference</p> <p>Children should study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – one study chosen from: early Islamic civilization, including a study of Baghdad c. AD 900; Mayan civilization c. AD 900; Benin (West Africa) c. AD 900-1300. |
| <p>Big concepts:</p> <p>Adversity Sacrifice Belief Equality Failure</p> <p>Historical understanding Developed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a timeline to develop an understanding of world history interpreting evidence Evaluating viewpoints Formulating hypotheses based on evidence Choosing reliable sources to describe the past cause and consequence similarity and difference <p>Historical knowledge Developed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> chronological understanding historical enquiry historical terms <p><i>See right-hand column for specific tasks and activities to be undertaken in order to develop historical knowledge and understanding.</i></p> | <p>What we want children to know: A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – Mayan civilisation</p> <p>Context Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maya civilisation extended from South East Mexico to Central America. This area included highland and lowland settlements and a variety of climate zones, including rainforest. Crops grown in the lowlands were traded for mineral ores and rocks from the mountainous areas. Archaeological evidence suggests that the earliest Mayan settlements probably date from the third millennium BC. Classical Maya civilisation is dated to between the years 200-900 AD. During this period as many as 40 sophisticated city states developed, with most ranging in population from 5,000 to 50,000 people. Some authorities suggest that Tikal may have had a population of up to 100,000 people by 800 AD. Each city state had its own ruler and each city was surrounded by rural settlements. The Maya used stone tools to carve the limestone that they used for their buildings. The Maya did not use wheels or pulleys for their building projects. They did not have draught animals capable of heavy labour. Building materials were transported by human porters or canoes. Maya religion demanded human sacrifices and blood-letting rituals. At the top of Maya society were the King and Royal family who were believed to be closely linked to the gods. An educated elite of scribes, priests and nobles formed the ruling class. They occupied the finest buildings in the city. The Maya were sophisticated mathematicians who made use of the number zero. They used base 20 in their calculations. They were keen astronomers who were able to predict solar eclipses and made accurate calendars. The decline of the Maya civilisation seems to have begun around 800 AD. No one knows for sure why the Maya civilisation went into decline. Possible explanations involve the overuse and exhaustion of farming land, prolonged drought, misrule, warfare and disease. Spanish explorers (called Conquistadors) were the first to arrive in the Mayan lands but at this time most of the large Mayan sites had been abandoned for hundreds of years. The Maya people had splintered into small villages and towns, losing their complex social strata and religious rituals. <p>Key understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mayans lived in an Empire of joined city estates They had knowledge of advanced mathematics and astronomy but did not have other technologies that existed in Europe such as domesticated animals and the wheel Mayans lived in very large city states at a time when Britain was largely rural The Mayan civilisation eventually declined – reasons for this are not known but various historians have attempted to explain this Europeans first encountered the Mayans during the Age of Exploration, although this was after the decline of the Mayan civilisation <p>British society around 1502 AD Contrast the Mayan Civilisation with British Society around the time of the first contact between the Mayans and Europeans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final period of Mayan civilisation roughly aligns with the Tudor period of British history (1485-1603) The Tudors were a dynasty of Kings and Queens that ruled England at a time when England was becoming a world power Important Kings and Queens from this time were Henry VII, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I. During 118 years of Tudor rule, England became richer than ever before. As the country became wealthier, towns grew, beautiful houses were built and schools and colleges were set up. Arts and crafts flourished too. England was home to great painters, musicians and writers, including William Shakespeare. It was a time of great change, most notably it marked the end of the Catholic church in England. Great naval exploits began the great English seafaring tradition. The golden age of exploration began in the 15th century and lasted more than 200 years. During the reign of Elizabeth 1, many sailors went in search of new lands. Explorers went to discover new territories, find trading partners and to make themselves and their queen rich. Portugal and Spain led the way, exploring the coasts of Africa, Asia and the 'New World' of the Americas. English exploration began in the reign of Henry VII, who sent Italian-born navigator John Cabot to find a northwestern route to Asia. Sir Francis Drake (1540-1596) was the first Englishman to sail around the world, which he did (1577 - 1580) in his ship The Golden Hinde. Drake started his famous circumnavigation of the world from Plymouth, England, November 15, 1577. | <p>History-focused skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> know how to express a point of view using 'In my opinion...' or 'I believe that...' when connected with historical knowledge know how to use two different sources and make comparisons between the information that we can infer from them Understand why different viewpoints exist on a historical event or person Assess a source for reliability – who is the author, where did their information come from, why are they writing? suggest more than one interpretation that is possible when using a historical source know how to use more than one timeline, at more than one scale, to show events in different places in relation to each other Compare and contrast two societies Summarise a succession of events over a period of time. Know how to devise a historically valid question using a stem as a starting point Know how to identify the causes and consequences in a past event Develop own explanations using historical viewpoints and evidence |

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