



Mysterious Mayans!

Driving Question:

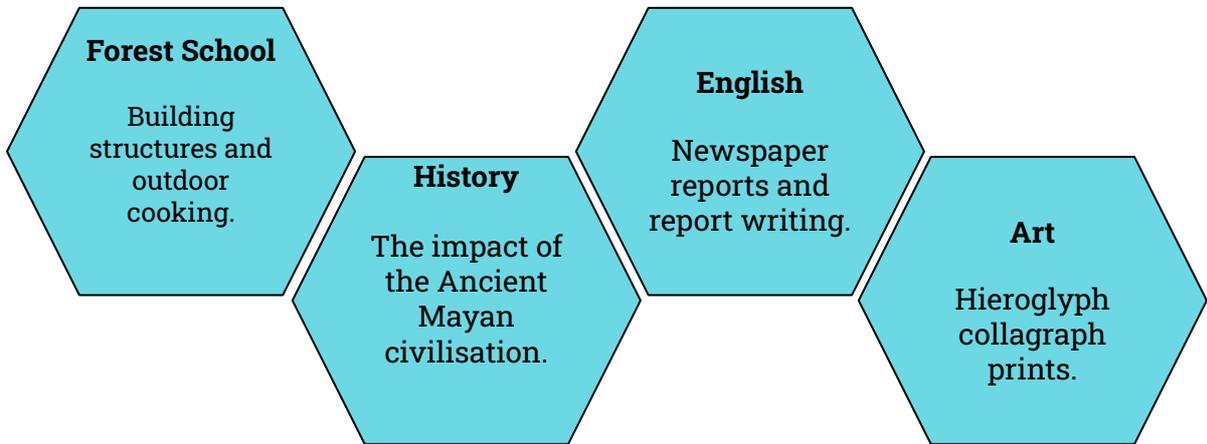
How can we, as archaeologists, explain the lifestyle of the Maya?

Launch:

On Monday 21st November, we will be visited by Arts2Educate! Children will have the opportunity to take part in a Mayan workshop where they will create mayan masks, act out a mayan myth and write and perform a song!

Overview:

During this term, we will be taking on the role of archaeologists and learning all about the history of the [Ancient Maya](#). We will be working together to create a museum of artefacts, which will show how the Maya lived, how their beliefs impacted their daily lives, their advanced number system, sports and fascinating art works!



Vocabulary:

Maya
hieroglyph
ancient
artefact
archeologist
structure
engineer
ritual
sacrifice
belief
exhibit
Central America

Learning conversations to have at home:

What is an archeologist and what do they do?

Have a go at researching this at home. An archeologist is a person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains. We will be acting as archeologists to explore the ancient Mayan civilisation by analysing artefacts and ancient Mayan ruins.

Compare how the ancient Mayan civilization lived to what was happening in Europe at the same time (around AD250.) Ask children to think about what they learned in History in Year 4?

This time was around the same time as the Roman Empire, who invented Roman Numerals, the Julian calendar, roads and arched bridges and buildings.

Topic Home learning:

Design a 3D model of Chichen Itza, the ancient Mayan temple found in modern-day Mexico. Make the 3D model using any materials you would like and accompany the model with research, explaining where the temple is and what its purpose was believed to be.

Deadline: Monday 5th December



Future Careers:

We will be exploring the role of an archeologist in finding sources as well as architect and engineers when researching Mayan buildings.

Landing:

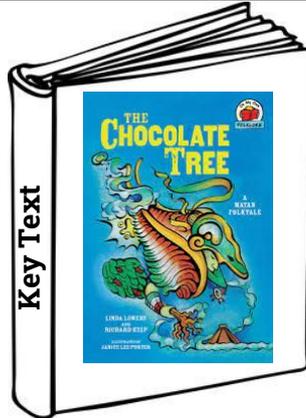
We will create a museum displaying all of the artefacts we have made in a variety of lessons including Mayan maths, collagraph printed hieroglyphs, event masks and our home learning projects.

Reading

This term our key text is 'The Chocolate Tree' by Linda Lowery and Richard Keep. This beautifully illustrated book tells a story of how the ancient Maya first discovered chocolate. It explores the beliefs and lifestyle of the Ancient Maya and deals with moral dilemmas.

What unusual beliefs did the Ancient Maya have?

Is a myth a true story?



What is your favourite part of the story?

Which Jewell learning skills do the characters demonstrate?

English

- ★ Report writing
- ★ Writing to entertain
- ★ Relative clauses (which, who, whose, when, where, that)

How can you help at home?

- Discuss with your child their favourite narrative stories
- Have a go at using relative clauses within sentences which also include a few of your spellings for the week

Maths

- ★ Multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000
- ★ Square, cube and prime numbers
- ★ Perimeter and area

How can you help at home?

- Encourage your child to practice their times tables for 10 minutes every day
- Ask your child to measure square or rectangular objects then work out the perimeter and area of them.

Science

We are learning about the properties of different materials including solids, liquids and gasses.

History

We are learning about the lifestyle, beliefs and legacy of the Ancient Maya.

Music

We are learning about Jazz music.

PSHE

We are learning all about celebrating differences.

Art

We are learning about different types of printmaking and will use a method called collagraph to make Mayan hieroglyphs.

Computing

We are learning how to code using 'Discovery coding'. We'll also learn about E-safety and online relationships.

Design and Technology

We are learning about structures. We will also have a go at making Mayan inspired food.

Physical Education

We are learning about tactics in invasion games and balance in gymnastics.

French

We are learning how to say different types of foods in French, particularly focussing on fruit.

Religious Education

We will be learning about Christianity and exploring the Christmas story.

Dates for the diary

Monday 21st November - Arts2educate Mayan workshop
December (TBC) - Year 5 Mayan Museum