

Prior Learning

Stone Age, Bronze Age & Iron Age settlement in Britain; Skara Brae.

Roman invaded Britain in 43AD and ruled Britain for over 400 years.

Anglo -Saxon & Viking battles over who should rule England.

In LKS2 we learnt about North America. In UKS2 we will learn about the Rainforests and people of South America.

Key Skills

Compare what was happening in the Maya civilisation with what was happening in Britain at the same time.

Describe how the Maya civilisation has had an impact on modern society.

Describe the ideas, beliefs and attitudes of all groups of people in the Maya civilisation.

Examine a variety of sources and use these to make inferences about the past - in particular about The Maya Civilisation

1500BC: First Maya civilisations developed.

700BC: Mayan writing begins to develop through the form of hieroglyphs.

1224AD: The city of Chichèn Itzá is abandoned.

1517AD: The Spanish arrive on the shores of Yucatán under Francisco Hernández de Córdoba.

Where did the Mayans live?



Famous Mayan cities include Palenque and Chichèn Itza, which are found in Mexico.



The Maya believed and worshipped several different gods. They believed that the gods had a good side and bad side and that gods could help or hurt them.

Priests were very important in Maya society as it was believed that they could communicate directly to the gods. They would perform different rituals during special festivals or ceremonies.

Vocabulary Dozen

Civilisation	An organised society living with its own culture and way of life, existing in a particular place over a period of time.
City state	An independent self-governing state formed of a city and its surrounding area.
Codices	Ancient handwritten text. One text is called a codex.
Drought	A period of very little rain.
Maize	Another word for sweetcorn or corn on the cob. It can be made into dough or baked into tortillas.
Ritual	A ceremony, often religious, performed with set actions.
Scribes	People paid to write things down to keep as records or for people who couldn't write.
Mesoamerica	A historical region and cultural area in North America.
Mayan	The language spoken by the Maya people.
Pok-ta-pok	A ceremonial ball game once played by the Aztecs and Maya; evolved into the ulama game.
Hieroglyph	A symbol that has a worded meaning, read like our graphemes.
Chichèn Itzá	A famous Mayan city.

