

Kingfisher History Knowledge Organiser Term 2

The Maya Civilisation: Why should we remember the Maya people?



Key Objectives

- To use evidence to reach conclusions about the lives of the Maya in the past and the present.
- To reach conclusions about the Maya by investigating their ancient cities.
- To know and understand why religion was important to the Maya.
- To investigate Maya technology and culture.
- To be able to provide valid reasons why the Maya disappeared around 900 AD.

Key Vocabulary

City-state	An independent self-governing state formed of a city and its surrounding area.
Sacrifice	To make an offering to a god.
Technology	Developing knowledge and tools to make people's lives easier.
Theory	An idea about why something happened.
Trade	The buying and selling of things like food.

Sticky Knowledge

- Maya people lived in Meso-America (Central America) in the area called Mexico and Guatemala.
- The Maya civilisation was a Stone Age culture as they didn't have metal.
- The Maya civilisation formed a society of city-states.
- Maya people made many technological advances and established a huge trading empire.
- The Maya people built pyramids to worship their gods and offer sacrifices. Maya people worshipped up to 300 gods.
- There are many theories why the population of Maya cities disappeared around 900AD.
- We know about the Maya civilisation from archaeological remains and the people living in the area today.