

# Year 5 Autumn 1 (25 Hours)

## History - The Maya Knowledge Organiser

### Key Facts and Information

The Maya worshipped a number of different gods. They believed that gods had a good side and a bad side and that the gods could help or hurt them. The Maya would dance, sing and sometimes make offerings of blood to the gods.

The Maya people believed that the earth, which they called the Middleworld, was flat and resting on the back of a creature, such as a turtle or crocodile.

The Maya writing system was made up of over 800 symbols called glyphs.

The Maya developed a complex number and counting system. They had a calendar that thought the world would end in 2012.

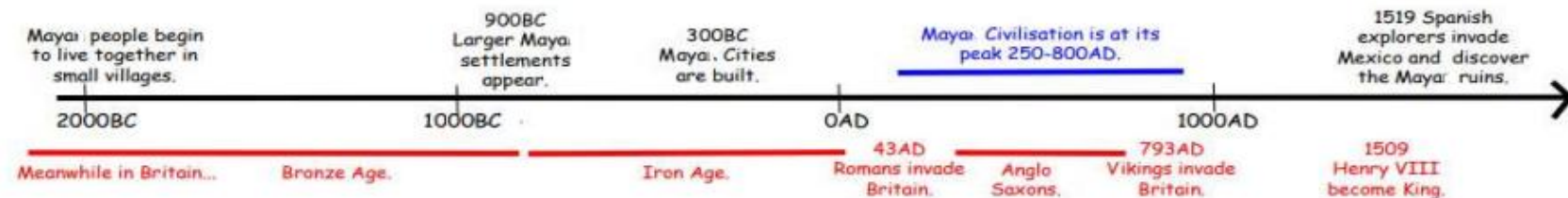
Maize was a very important crop that formed up to 80% of the Maya people's diets. The Maya made a drink from cacao beans that was enjoyed by the rich and used for medicines and in ceremonies. The beans were highly valued and even used as money.

### Key Questions

- Who were the Maya?
- Where did the Maya live?
- What evidence is there that the Maya lived differently?
- What religion did the Maya follow?



The Maya lived in central America; known as Mesoamerica.



### Learning Objectives

To know where in the world the Maya lived.

To understand where in the historical timeline the Maya civilisation was at its height.

To explain the religious beliefs of the Maya and Britain during 800AD

To compare the communication styles between the Maya and Britain.

To compare the range of foods eaten by the Maya people and Britain

### Vocabulary

Artefact	An object that is made by a person, such as tool or decoration, that is of historical interest.
Archaeologist	A person who studies history through excavation of sites.
BC/AD	Before Christ/Anno Domini
Civilisation	An organised society with its own culture and way of life, existing in a particular area over a particular period of time.
Contrast	Being different to something
Primary Source	A first-hand source that exists from the time of the topic
Secondary Source	Information that was created by somebody who didn't live through the event