

Woodley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

History Focus:	Ancient Maya	Year 5	Spring 2 & Summer
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Key Vocabulary	
Spelling	Definition
Archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains
Architecture	The art of planning, designing, and constructing buildings
Chichen Itza	A village in Yucatan state in Mexico: site of important Mayan ruins
Chronology	The order of events in time
Circa	Latin meaning 'around' .c. 800 BC means around 800 BC
Civilisation	A human society with its own social organisation and culture
Climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place
Continent	A large area of land that consists of many countries. South America is a continent
Culture	Activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilisation
Deforestation	If an area is deforested, all the trees have been cut down
Deities	A god or goddess
Demise	Something or someone s their end or death
Drought	A long period of time during which no rain falls
Economy	The wealth that a society or country gets from business and industry
Erosion	The gradual destruction and removal of rock and soil
Fertile	Rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants
Hierarchy	A system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance, for example in society
Indigenous	People or things belong to the country in which they are found
Mayan	Of, relating to, or characteristic of the Maya or any of their languages
Merchant	A person who buys or sells goods in large quantities
Mesoamerica	Central America - the countries consist of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Belize; and the western sections on Honduras and Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica
Plaza	An open square in a city.
Polytheists	The worship of or belief in more than one god
Society	People in general, thought of as a large organised group
Trade	The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services

Prior Knowledge
What I should already know ...
<p>South America is a continent.</p> <p>The climate of South America is different to that of the UK.</p> <p>Human and physical geographical features of a region in South America.</p> <p>Other civilisations include the Egyptians and the Greeks.</p> <p>What erosion is and what impact it can have on land.</p> <p>Life in Britain during the Stone Age.</p> <p>The chronology of British history.</p>

What I will know at the end of the unit	
Objectives for the unit:	A non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – Mayan civilization c. AD 900.
Key Skills:	<p>To be able to chronologically order events using historical resources.</p> <p>To be able define and use appropriate vocabulary learnt throughout topic.</p> <p>To be able to examine a variety of sources and use these to make inferences about the past.</p> <p>To be able to recognise connections, contrasts and trends over time using historical sources.</p> <p>To be able to devise our own historically valid questions linked to what we have learnt.</p> <p>To be able to construct informed responses that involve selection and organisation of relevant historical information.</p>
	<p>To identify who the Ancient Maya were, where they lived and when did they live.</p> <p>To place the chronology of key events of the Mayan civilisation on a timeline along with a chronology of key events of Britain and notice events that overlap.</p> <p>Describe the life in a Mayan city and understand and explain the difficulties of sustaining a civilisation in an environment different to that of Britain.</p> <p>Compare what was happening in the Mayan civilisation with what was happening in Britain at the same time</p> <p>Be able to describe (using appropriate historical vocabulary):</p> <p>How the Mayan civilisation has had an impact on modern society. For example,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How they wrote • How they told time • How they traded goods • How they used numbers.
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