

# History: The Maya Civilization

## Key Vocabulary

Economic  
Cultural  
Political  
Civilisation  
Pyramid  
Reconstruction  
Archaeology  
Sacrifice  
Meso-America  
Nobles  
Hierarchy  
Bloodletting  
Conquistadors  
Glyphs  
Agriculture  
Astronomy  
Interpretations  
Climate change  
Conquer  
Codex/codices  
Pagan  
Scribe

## Overview

In this unit, the children will explore the world of the Maya, and debate whether they should continue to be remembered today as a significant culture. The children will begin by learning about the lives of the Maya today, before focusing on ancient Maya architectural achievements, their religion and surviving writings. They will also study the possible reasons why the Maya city states declined after 900 AD, looking at conspiracy theories and considering whether everything they read online is reliable. They will consider the issues faced when studying a culture where only limited types of evidence are available, predominantly archaeological evidence.

## Key Points of Learning (RAG at end of each session)

- To use evidence to reach conclusions about the lives of the Maya in the past and the present.
- To investigate the Maya's ancient cities and understand why they remained hidden for so long.
- To know and understand why religion was important to the Maya.
- To investigate Maya technology and culture and conclude how advanced Maya society was.
- To provide valid reasons why the Maya disappeared around 900 AD.
- To reach a conclusion about whether the Maya are a significant society and should be remembered.

Useful Websites - [Maya bbc](#)



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