

William Barnes Primary School					Subject: History				
Unit: The Maya					Year 6				
What should I already know?									
Houses and Homes Explorers The Great Fire of London			WWII The Egyptians		The Romans		The Greeks World Religions		
Historical Skills									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * know and understand significant aspects of the history of the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies; achievements and follies of mankind * gain and deploy a historically grounded understanding of abstract terms such as 'empire', 'civilisation', 'parliament' and 'peasantry' 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses * understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed 				
1100 BC	800 BC	700 BC	400 BC	300 BC	100 BC	AD450	AD683	AD800	AD1500s
The first hunter gathers settle along the Pacific coast.	Village farming and trade become established.	Maya writing is developed	Earliest solar calendars carved into stone.	Nobles and kings are included in the Maya social structure.	The first pyramid are built.	The citystate of Tikal dominates part of the central area.	Pakal the Great of Planque dies and is buried in the Temple of Inscriptions.	Sites in the rainforests and tropical areas are abandoned due to drought	The Spanish arrive in South America.
What should I know by the end of the unit?									
Key Facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2600BC Mayans lived in a place called Yucatan in central America. • The Mayan, or Maya, people made their home in an area known as Mesoamerica. • Mayan writing consisted of hieroglyphs . • Poor Mayans lived in round, single room homes with a thatched roof and made out of mud or stone. Rich Mayans lived in the city in large stone palaces. • Mayan religion involved human sacrifice and bloodletting. They believed those that died went to the "place in the misty sky" • Mayan society was formed of a number of city states who each had a ruler. • The Chechen Itza is one of the seven wonders of the world that was built in 600AD. 					Who Were the Maya? The Maya are indigenous people of Mexico and Central Americas who were the first Mesoamerican civilisation to develop writing. They are known for their number system and the accuracy of their calendar.				
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					Society Most Maya lived in stone or thatched homes, but the nobles lived in palaces with beautiful murals and sculptures. The Maya built sewer systems and even developed a running water system.				
					Architecture The Maya are known for building pyramids. They built some which had a temple at the top and were meant to be climbed to make sacrifices at the top. Other pyramids were built to specific gods and were not to				
					Calendar and Numbers The Maya had a very advanced numerical system made up of three symbols that are thought to come from things they would have counted with, like stones, sticks and shells: As time was very important to the Maya, they made detailed and accurate calendars to chart the movement of the Sun, moon, stars and sometimes the planets.				
Art The Maya made beautiful jewellery and enjoyed tattooing. The carved stone and painted on their skin.									
Vocabulary									
drought A long period with very little rain. scribes People paid to write things down, often as an official record. conquistador A conqueror, especially one of the Spanish conquerors of Mexico and Peru indigenous Originating or occurring naturally from a particular place. hieroglyphs A writing system that uses pictures and symbols instead of letters and words jaguar A big cat with yellow fur and black spots.					codex An ancient handwritten text. sacrifice An offering of something as a religious act priests A person who is authorised to perform the sacred rites of a religion invasion Entering an area by force in order to take over. calendar A chart showing the days, weeks and months of a particular year pyramid A structure built from stone as a royal tomb temple A building devoted to the worship of a god or gods invasion Entering an area by force in order to take over. ritual A religious ceremony				

