## MAYANS

## History

Previous learning: Ancient Greeks (year 4)

## Key Vocabulary

Ancient: Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

Astronomy: The branch of science which deals with space and the physical universe as a whole.

Chichen Itza: One of the best-preserved examples of a Mayan city

Deity: A synonym for God

Year 5

Legend: A story that has a religious origin using comprising of mortal vs immortal being.

Hieroglyph: A symbol that has a worded meaning, like our written writing today.

Maize: Corn—a major resource of food for Mayan people. Part of their religious culture.

Maya: the collective noun for the Mayan people.

## Summary

Centres around the country now known as Guatemala, the Maya Empire was at its most powerful around 600 A.D. They Maya are known for <u>their skilled</u> <u>agriculture, pottery, hieroglyphic writing, calendar making and mathe-</u>

<u>matics.</u> The Mayans were <u>incredible inventors</u>, allowing them to truly thrive as a society. They left behind an impressive amount of architecture and symbolic artwork. The Maya were <u>deeply religious and worshiped various gods</u>. They performed elaborate religious rituals and ceremonies in order to please them.

Hello: Ba'ax ka wa'alik	Goodbye: Taak ulak k'iin	ang
Welcome: Kilmak 'oolal	Thank you: Dios bo'otik	gen.
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Chichen Itza is probably the most visited Mayan ruin in Mexico, since being named one of the New Wonders of the World. It stands at 75 feet tall and was built for astronomical/ sacrificial purposes.



