

Dear Year 5, Parents & Carers,

Here is our enquiry question for this half term. Please use these ideas to help your research or bring things into class to support your learning. Have Fun!

Mrs Thain and Miss Heckels

GREENFIELDS  
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Upper Key Stage 2 ~ Spring II  
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

**Who were the Mayans and what have we learned from them?**



**As READERS we will:**

- Read "Journey to the River Sea" by Eva Ibbotson which is set in a region of South America
- Read the myth of the "Hero Twins" and the "Mayan Civilisation Story" and explain what they tell us about the Mayans

**As AUTHORS we will:**

- Write a set of rules for a Mayan "Pok a Tok" game
- Write recipes for traditional Mayan meals
- Write a script for a Mayan ceremony

**As ATHLETES we will:**

- Attempt to play the traditional (and difficult!) Mayan game of 'Pok a Tok'

**As GEOGRAPHERS we will:**

- Locate the region of Central America where the Mayans were located
- Name and locate the main countries, rivers and mountain regions in North & South America
- Calculate the distance and time taken to reach South America from the UK
- Understand why the Mayans settled in this particular area of the world

**As HISTORIANS we will:**

- Place the Mayans onto a timeline, understanding where they came from and when they were around
- Understand some of the main Mayan traditions such as food, games and ceremonies
- Discuss the Mayan hierarchy and the roles and jobs of citizens and leaders
- Understand that the Mayans were very skilled astronomers, architects and mathematicians and discuss how we have learned from this

**As MATHEMATICIANS we will:**

- Investigate the complex number system devised by the Mayans and use it to solve number problems
- Look at how the Mayans created and used calendars
- Solve scaling problems using recipes for Mayan meals
- Draw scaled diagrams of totem poles

**As DESIGNERS we will:**

- Design a mask structure for a specific purpose
- Decorate a mask as a character part of a dance ceremony
- Evaluate the success of our masks against a given criteria

**As CITIZENS we will:**

- Discuss religions and compare some of the beliefs of the past
- Explain the purpose of Mayan Gods and invent our own