|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Catton Grove Primary School - History** | | |
| **Year: 5** | **Topic: History** | **Key concepts: Mayans** |

|  |
| --- |
| What I should already know: |
| * Mexico is located in central America * Mexico has rainforests. * The Ancient Greeks built pyramids. |

|  |
| --- |
| Diagram |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| People |
| * Pakal the Great (K’inich Janaab Pakal) - A king in Mesoamerica whose reign lasted more than 68 years, the longest lasting king in Ancient Maya. He built various intricate temples and was buried with a perfectly preserved jade mask. |

|  |
| --- |
| Technical Vocabulary |
| Maya - The collective noun for the Mayan people. |
| Mesoamerica - The region in which the Maya lived, covering Mexico and parts of Southern America. |
| Pyramid - A 3D man-made structure that is built through large blocks of rock piled upon one another. |
| Deity – A synonym for God. |
| Chichen Itza – One of the best preserved example of a Mayan city. |
| Legend - A story told that has a religious origin usually comprising of a mortal vs immortal being. |
| Hieroglyph - A symbol that has a meaning. |
| Maize - Corn, a major resource of food for Mayan people. Part of their religious culture too. |
| Sacrifice - A slaughtering of an animal or human as anoffering to please the gods. |

|  |
| --- |
| Historical Skills and Enquiry |
| * What caused the decline of the Maya civilisation? * How important was Pakal the Great to the Maya? * Who and how did the Maya worship? * How does the ancient Maya way of life differ to the modern Maya way of life? * Where do the Maya sit on a historical timeline? * What can we learn from Mayan hieroglyphs? |
| Core Knowledge |
| **The Mayan number system** was the first in history to use zero, which enabled them to work with much higher numbers than any other ancient civilisation. They worked with a base 20 system as opposed to our base 10 number system.    **Chaac** was the Mayan god of rain. The Maya believed that thebest way to please their gods was through the sacrifice of animals or humans. If they were experiencing a drought, the belief was that Chaac was punishing them so they would need to sacrifice.  **Sacrificing rituals** would often be through beheading or  drownings. They were religious ceremonies that many people would attend.  **Pok-a-tok** was a religious game that was often refereed by the high priest. The players would have to use their bodies to get a ball through a stone hoop. The losing team would sometimes be used as a sacrifice! A lot of Mayan stories would refer to the game of Pok-a-tok.  **Headdresses** were a large part of Mayan culture. It was believed that the larger the headdress that someone wore, the more important they were.  **Pakal the Great** was a king in Mesoamerica whose reign lasted more than 68 years, the longest lasting king in Ancient Maya. He built various intricate temples and was buried with a perfectly preserved jade mask. |

