

Year 6 Summer Term Expedition Narrative

The Maya in Central America

In May 2023, the Year 6 children will begin their Summer Term Expedition, focusing on the guided question:

“Who were they and what happened to their civilization?”

Our Learning:



As part of history (**Case Study 1**), we explore how the ancient Maya cities grew so strong and powerful, before breaking down so quickly. We will also debate how the Maya could be considered civilised if they believed in human sacrifice. To develop our knowledge of the lives of those who lived more than 1000 years ago, we look at a range of primary and secondary sources and discuss their importance.

As part of art (Case Study 3), we will begin by looking at Maya worry dolls, observing the colours, patterns and techniques that have been used. Then, we will plan and create our own. We will then focus on self-portraits, looking at examples from a diverse range of artists including Frida Kahlo, Coco de Paris and Kehinde Wiley, before planning and creating our own self-portraits in our chosen style.

Engage

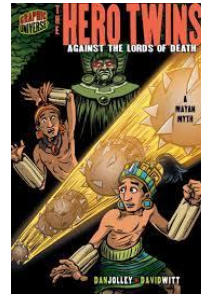
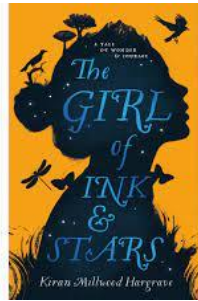
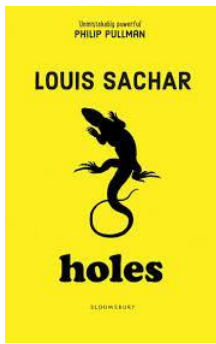
To get excited and engage with the topic, we will immerse the children in the Maya, looking at a range of sources to try and work out why they are important enough to be studied in school.

Final Product

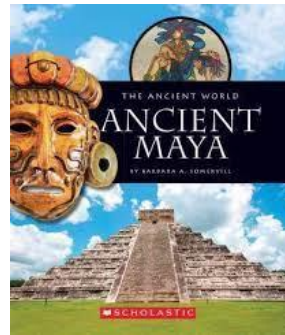
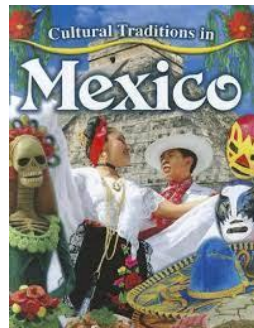
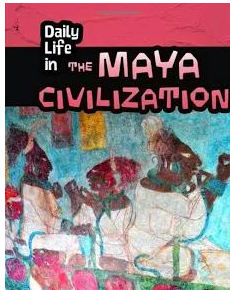
The children will organise a cultural event, which allows them to share their knowledge and awareness of the Maya as a group of people who still exist today, showcasing their understanding of the rich culture and history.

Key Texts

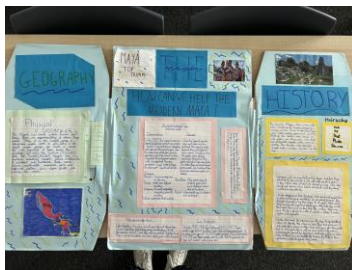
Fiction



Non-Fiction



Staff Model Product



Family Learning

At the end of the expedition, we will invite families and the wider community into school to attend a cultural awareness event on the Maya.

Other subjects taught this term:

Mathematics

The children will apply our mathematical knowledge and understanding to real life problems through a range of topic challenges, giving them valuable life skills and reaffirming the importance of maths in everyday life.

Writing

The children will also use their knowledge from previous narratives to depict clear, exciting imagery in order to write a suspense narrative. We will also focus on poetry, leading up to the Poetry Slam event.

Reading

The children will begin our transition text 'The Girl of Ink and Stars' learning about more complex themes, whilst applying the skills we have been developing throughout our primary school journey.

Music

We will focus on our singing and performance skills, thinking carefully about how to plan out songs with parts and ensemble sections to have a greater effect on the audience.

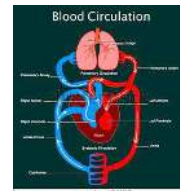
Mandarin

The children will participate in the 'My Week in China' programme from Dragons Teaching, learning vocabulary and acquiring knowledge about life in China during interactive sessions. They will then access online follow up tasks to consolidate their understanding.



Science

When studying the circulatory system, we identify the various parts and discover the components of blood. Furthermore, we investigate the impact of exercise on our heart rate and recognise the link between the circulatory and respiratory systems. As part of our 'Animals including humans' strand, we look at the scientific process of human reproduction.



PSHE

We explore the topic of healthy relationships to begin this term, focusing on mental health, forming friendships and solving problems within them, helping others and showing them respect as well as online safety. We then develop our knowledge of self-image, deepen our understanding of puberty, understand the changes that they see in themselves as well as respecting the changes they see in others, and learn how a baby develops from conception through the nine months of pregnancy until it is born. Finally, we focus on recognising when we need to ask for help if we are worried about change and identify what we are looking forward to in the year ahead as we think about the transition to secondary school.

Computing

We will develop key skills further to ensure the children are confident and ready to be able to use technology effectively and responsibly before they move on to secondary school. Alongside this, we will complete increasingly challenging programming challenges to consolidate our knowledge of algorithms and debugging.