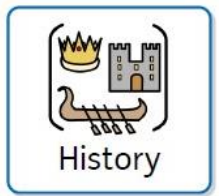




# How did the achievements of the Ancient Maya impact their society and beyond?



Prior learning: What did the Ancient Egyptians believe?

What we are learning					
Lesson 1: To evaluate the challenges of early settlement by exploring how the Ancient Maya settled in the rainforest.	Lesson 2: To infer how the Ancient Maya valued and used cacao by exploring historical artefacts.	Lesson 3: To describe the role of the Ancient Maya gods and goddesses by studying images and scenarios.	Lesson 4: To develop recording skills through exploration of Ancient Maya inventions.	Lesson 5: To make deductions about an Ancient Maya city by exploring archaeological evidence.	Lesson 6: To analyse historians' viewpoints on the decline of the Ancient Maya cities.

Key vocabulary		
ancient	From a very long time ago.	
archivist	A person who takes care of important documents and records, making sure they are safely kept and can be looked at in the future.	
archaeologist	Someone who studies the buildings, graves, tools and other objects of people who lived in the past.	
categorise	To put people or things into groups with the same features.	
civilisation	A large group of people with a common language, way of life and governance.	
historian	Someone who studies or writes about history.	
Mesoamerica	A historical region in Central America made up of modern-day countries of northern Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize and central to southern Mexico.	
preserve	To keep something safe from harm or change.	
theory	An idea that is intended to explain facts or events, often based on some evidence.	



Ancient Maya periods



**Pre-Classic period**

From 2000 BC to AD 250, the Ancient Maya went from hunter-gatherers (hunting animals and gathering food from nature) to living in cities.

**Classic period**

From AD 250 to AD 900, the Ancient Maya thrived, invented and flourished.

**Post-Classic period**

From AD 900 to 1524, this period saw the development of Chichen Itza, one of the largest and most magnificent Ancient Maya cities.

**Contact and Spanish conquest period**

From 1524 to 1697, the Ancient Maya had more contact with the Europeans and the Spanish took control.