



<b>Unit of Work</b>	History – The Maya: Chocolate, the Writing System, the Calendar System and Clues from the Past
<b>Text Driver the Unit of Work Links to</b>	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
<b>Key Strand</b>	Inventions and Legacy
<b>Overview of the Unit of Work</b>	Pupils will learn about the Ancient Maya period. They will use a range of sources to identify clues from the past in order to make deductions about the Maya and their significant advances in inventions, including chocolate, the Mayan writing system and the Mayan calendar system. Pupils will investigate how these advances left a lasting legacy of the Maya, building one of the great civilisations in history.
<b>Prior Learning &amp; Vocabulary</b>	<p>Pupils will build upon their learning about ancient civilisations from Year 3 (The Stone Age) and Year 4 (The Ancient Egyptians). They will expand their understanding of our world history and the chronology of when these periods of history occurred.</p> <p>Prior Vocabulary: inventions, civilisation, ancient, innovation, glyphs, hieroglyphics, scribes, culture, artefacts, architecture</p>
<b>Sticky Knowledge</b>	<p>Pupils will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who the Maya were and when in our world history their civilisation took place, including about the Golden Age and how their lifestyles changed at this time.</li> <li>• How the Maya civilisation began long ago in a place called Mesoamerica; this huge place is made up of what is now known as Mexico and part of a Central America.</li> <li>• The first evidence of cocoa (and chocolate) comes from the Mayan people. Mayan chocolate was very different than the chocolate we know today and was known as Xocolatl (a bitter drink made from cocoa).</li> <li>• Cocoa was a significant part of the Mayan culture. Artefacts have been found that show kings and Mayan gods drinking chocolate. Cocoa was often consumed during religious ceremonies, and by the wealthy.</li> <li>• The Maya was the only major civilisation in the Americas to develop a writing system that was able to represent their spoken language in symbolic form and only the most educated would have been able to use this writing system, so scribes became important and respected people.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing and contrasting the ancient Maya writing system and the ancient Egyptian writing system, highlighting their similarities and differences.</li> <li>• The Maya were skillful mathematicians and astronomers and used their knowledge to build an accurate and complex calendar system: The Calendar Round.</li> <li>• How to present information and key ideas in original ways.</li> </ul>
<p><b>New Vocabulary</b></p>	<p>Mesoamerica: today known as Mexico and parts of central America  urban: in, relating to, or characteristic of a town or city  legacy: anything handed down from the past, as from an ancestor or predecessor  Xocolatl: the Mayan (hot chocolate) drink  codices: plural of codex (an ancient type of book written by hand)  anthropologist: people who study societies and culture  archaeologist: a person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains.  stelae: were carved standing stones  currency: a medium of exchange for goods and services  cocoa: harvested from cacao trees to be used in chocolate and as a currency in trade  astronomy: the study of the Universe and everything in it</p>
<p><b>Post Learning</b></p>	<p>South America – Year 5 (population and continents)  Inventions and legacy aspects of the Ancient Greeks and Anglo-Saxons in Britain taught in Year 6.</p>