

## History home learning 20/03/20 - Year 3/4

This week, we would love it if you could research all about the Mayans.

We have split the ideas into five different lessons, but we appreciate that five sessions may not be possible in all households. This is a guide only! Thank you so much for supporting your child with their home learning. We hope they enjoy this home project.

**Lesson 1** - Research and find out information about the Mayans and create a mini fact file, use your own design or the fact file template to help you.

Use <https://www.alarms.org/kidrex/> for safe internet searches. Think about:

Who were they?  
Where did they live?  
What did they do?  
What was life like?  
What happened to the Mayans?  
Would you like to live there? Why?  
What did they invent?  
How is life similar and different to life today?

**Challenge:** *what questions would you want to ask a Mayan?*

**Lesson 2-** Research and find out information about the inventions that the Mayans created.

Use <https://www.alarms.org/kidrex/> for safe internet searches. Think about

What inventions did the Mayans create?  
What was the impact of these inventions? (how did life change for the Mayans after these were invented?)  
What is your favourite invention? Why?  
Do you use any of their inventions?

Pick your favourite invention, draw it out and write some information that you have found out about it.

**Challenge:** *design your own invention and what impact would that have on your life. Draw and label the invention.*

**Lesson 3-** From your research, what similarities and differences can you notice about life for the Mayans and life for you in Bracknell? Use the template below to help guide your knowledge about both.

**Challenge:** *what would happen if you and a Mayan swapped lives? What challenges would you find living there and how do you think a Mayan would find living in Bracknell. Write down and your ideas!*

**Lesson 4-** Research and find out information about the different jobs and roles in Mayan society. Use the resource sheet to help you.

Use <https://www.alarms.org/kidrex/> for safe internet searches. Think about:

What is the job/role?

What does it involve?

Can anyone do it?

Which job/role do you find the most interesting?

Which is the least appealing?

Choose your favourite job. Write a paragraph explaining why you would be best suited for that job/role. Does this job/role exist now? If not, why?

**Challenge:** *how have jobs changed since then? Write down similarities and differences.*

**Lesson 5 – Your choice:** you can select which form of writing you would like to use to show your research. You could write a comparison showing the similarities and differences, you could write a diary entry from the viewpoint of a Mayan, you could write a detailed fact file on a Mayan, a poster.. or any other idea you might have!

**Challenge:** *refer back to lesson 1 and the questions you might ask a Mayan. Write down the answers that they might give you.*

## Resources

### Lesson 1

Useful websites:

[https://kids.kiddle.co/Mayan\\_civilization](https://kids.kiddle.co/Mayan_civilization)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-introducing-the-maya-civilisation/znk3cqt>

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## **Lesson 2**

Useful websites:

<https://www.ancienthistorylists.com/maya-history/top-10-inventions-of-mayan-civilization/>

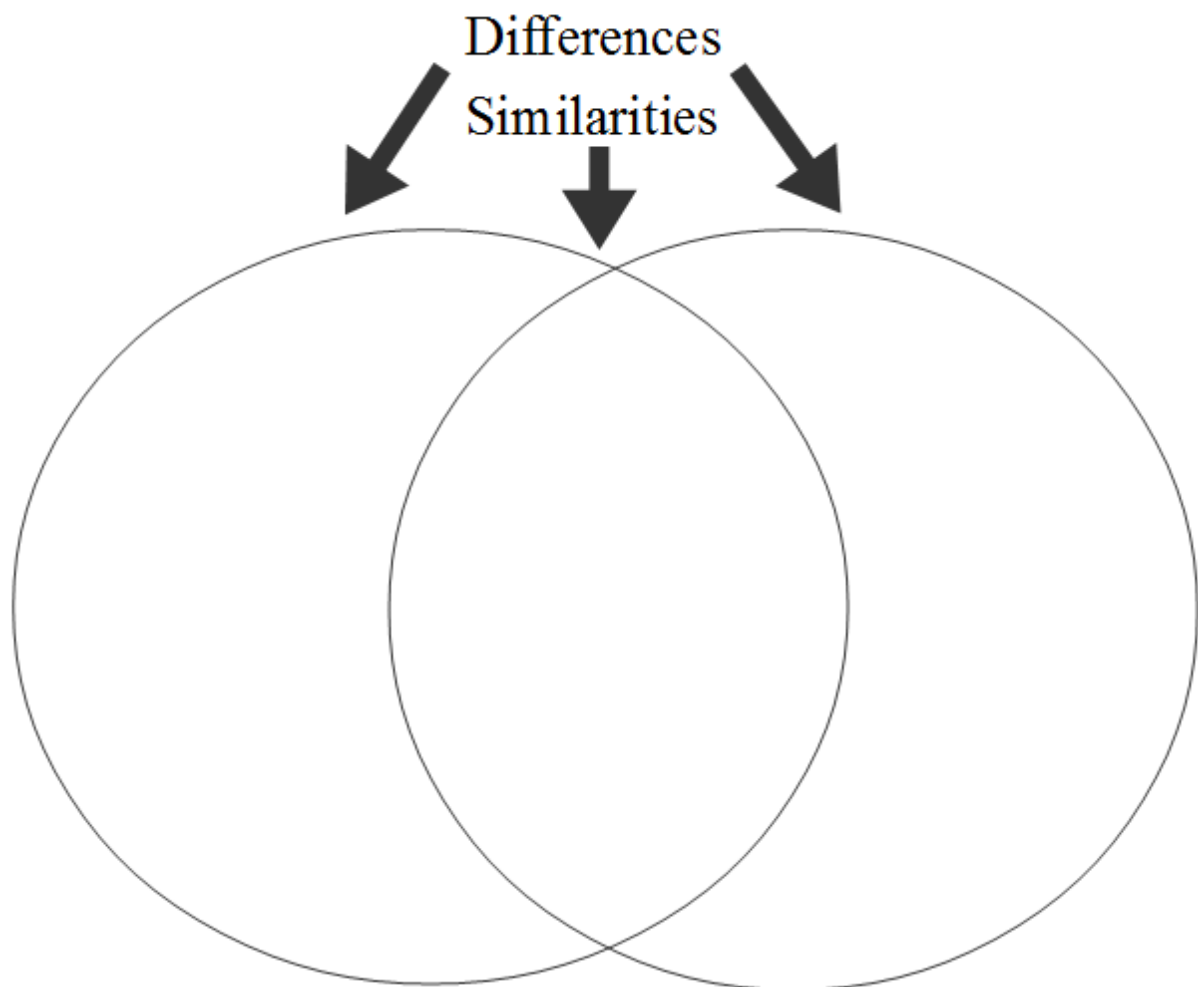
<https://mayas.mrdonn.org/inventions.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ks3-mayan-innovations-and-inventions/z632t39>

## **Lesson 3**

Useful websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw>



## **Lesson 4**

Useful websites:

<https://mayansandtikal.com/mayan-civilisation/mayan-jobs/>

### **Mayan Society**

Mayan society was structured a bit like a pyramid. The higher up the pyramid you were, the more important you were:

- 1) **King**: The king was at the very top of the pyramid and was the most important person in the city state. Mayans believed that kings were chosen by the gods. This meant that a king's orders and wishes had to be obeyed.
- 2) **Nobles and Priests**: These were very important people who were educated. They were the scribes and astrologers of society. They lived in grand houses.
- 3) **Palace Officials**: These were also very important people. They were in charge of the day-to-day running of the city.
- 4) **Craftsmen**: Craftsmen included anyone who had a skilled job, such as a stonemason, tailor or woodcarver.
- 5) **Farmers**: Most ordinary people in Mayan society were farmers. They usually lived in small settlements and lived simple lives.
- 6) **Labourers**: Labourers did the hard manual labour that was needed to build temples and other buildings. Labourers were paid a very low wage.
- 7) **Slaves**: Slaves were at the very bottom of the social pyramid. They also had to do hard labour, and anything else they were told to do, but they didn't get paid for their work. They were given food and shelter by their masters.