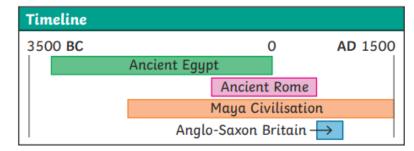
What should we already know?

- Where the Mayan Civilisation falls on a historical timeline
- Ancient Egypt era started before Maya Civilisation and Ancient Greeks started after



Who are the Mayans?

- The Mayans community started around 2000BC. Their civilization was the biggest between the years of 420 AD and 900 AD.
- Maya people civilization developed in the south-east area of Mesoamerica (modern day Mexico).
- They developed their own calendars, numbers and writing system.
- They worshipped many deities
- Due to the arrival of the Spanish in the 16th century, their ancient cities fell to ruin.

Writing and Number System

- Writing system consisted of over 800 symbols called glyphs
- These were carved into stone buildings and monuments, and painted on pottery. Maya scribes also wrote books called codices.
- The Maya developed a complex number system that was advanced for their time.
- The Maya people used just three symbols in their number system. (thought to represent how they began to count ie with pebbles and sticks.



- Maize was a very important crop that formed up to 80% of the Maya people's diets. They believed that the first humans were made from maize dough by the gods.
- The Maya made a bitter chocolatey drink from cacao beans that was enjoyed by the rich and used for medicines and in ceremonies.
- The beans were highly valued and even used as a form of money.

Food

Mayan Civilization

- -The Maya civilisation began long ago in a place called 'Mesoamerica'. An area made up
- of Mexico and part of Central America.
- -The Maya built amazing cities like Tikal (which they called 'Yax Mutal') and Palengue.
- -They were experts at reading the stars and even built their cities as a map of the sky! They were also inspired by the creatures of the forest and shared many legends about animals, plants and nature spirits.

- -Gods were involved in every aspect of the life of the Maya
- -They controlled the weather, harvest, they dictated who you married, presided over every birth and were present at one's death.



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	VOCABULARY	
	Maya	The collective noun for the Mayan people.
	Mesoamerica	The region in which the Maya lived, spanning over Mexico and parts of Southern America.
	Pyramid	A 3D man-made structure that is built through large cuboids of rock piled upon one another to form a triangular shape.
	Deity	A synonym for god.
	Chichen Itza	One of the best-preserved examples 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 worded meaning, read like our graphemes.
	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 an offering to please the gods.