

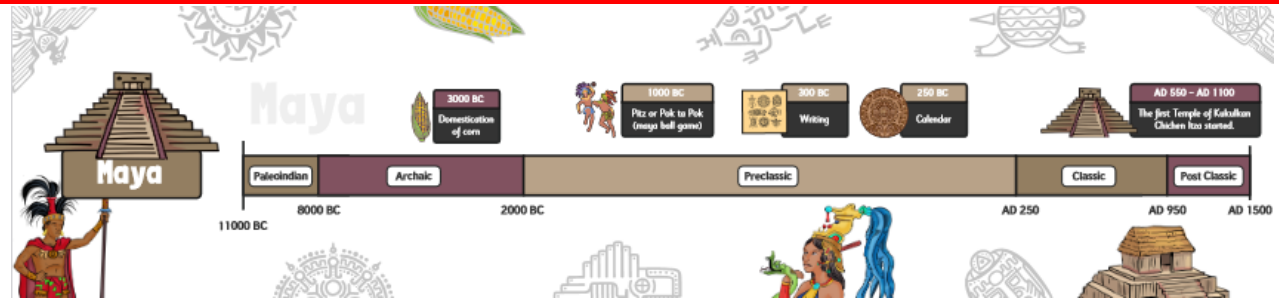
## History

## Maya Civilisation

## Year 6

### Key Vocabulary

<b>Ajaw</b>	A Maya king/leader
<b>Artefact</b>	An object that is made by a person, such as a tool or a decoration, especially one that is of historical interest.
<b>Cacao</b>	The tree that bears cacao seeds, which are contained in large, oval pods that grow on the trunk.
<b>Civilisation</b>	Human society which is organised.
<b>Empire</b>	A group of countries ruled by a single person, government, or country.
<b>Heptarchy</b>	The name given to the 7 kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon England
<b>Kingdom</b>	A place ruled by a king, queen, or important person.
<b>Ravine</b>	A deep, narrow valley
<b>Sacrifice</b>	An act of slaughtering an animal or person as an offering to a god or gods.
<b>Temple</b>	A building used for the worship of a god or gods in some religions.



### Key Knowledge

- The Maya empire was organised into city states; each city state was ruled by a different noble family.
- Maya people lived in settlements with a central temple/pyramid as a focal point.
- Maya city states traded with each other - sometimes using cacao beans as money.
- Masks were used for many purposes, but mainly funerals to protect important people in the afterlife.
- The Maya believed in and worshipped a number of different gods. They believed that the gods had a good side and a bad side and that the gods could help or hurt them.
- Priests were very important in Maya society as it was believed that they could communicate directly with the gods.

### Key Maps

#### Where did the Maya live?

Mesoamerica – now known as Mexico - lies between the USA and South America, in a region known as Central America. It's a long strip of land with coast on both sides; the Pacific Ocean on the west, and the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea in the east.

