

Tuesday 23rd February

English

Learning Intentions:

4: Retrieve and record information from non-fiction over a wide range of subjects identifying what the text is about, the type of text and discussing titles and subheadings.

5 and 6: Summarise main ideas in order from more than one paragraph, identifying key details and using quotations for illustration.

Starter:

The Maya worshipped many different Gods. They could change themselves into animals and human shapes. The Gods were a big part of Mayan life. People believed that the most important thing was to keep the powerful Gods happy!

- Share your favourite fact on a Mayan God.
- This can be shared through Class Dojo.

Hun Ixim



h Pu

Kin



Chac



Our aim: we are building up to writing our own character descriptions of a Mayan God.

Over the weeks, we will look at different Mayan Gods and aspects of their life.

We'll take notes and collect **vocabulary** on some of the Gods with a different focus each day.

Like before, there will be lessons where we collect vocabulary and super sentences.

This will help you when the time comes to write up your own **character description**.

Experience Session: Mayan Gods

- For the next two lessons, we will be researching the Gods. Today you will focus on one, and tomorrow you may pick another.
- Read the information on the Mayan Gods and take notes.
- Remember, only write down the important information.

Let's meet the
Gods!



Mayan Gods

The Maya people worshipped a number of different gods, many of whom had overlapping roles and names. Some had human form, some took the form of an animal and some were a phenomena of nature.

Historians have discovered a lot about the Maya gods from carvings and codices (Maya books).

*Read the information about some Maya gods on the following slides.

Take notes on the gods' names and meanings, appearances and other facts/features.

Afterwards, pick one God to focus your research on.*



Mayan Gods

Itzamna

(meaning 'Iguana'
or 'Lizard House')

One of the creator gods.

Inventor of writing.

Patron of learning.

Portrayed in human form as an old man
with no teeth and a large nose.



Mayan Gods

Ix Chel

(meaning 'Lady Rainbow')

Goddess of childbirth, healing, weaving
and the Moon

Wife of Itzamna and the mother of
many gods.

Portrayed in human form wearing a
headdress of snakes entangled in her
hair, and toes and fingers that looked
like jaguar claws.

Capable of causing floods and
destruction.



Mayan Gods

Maize God - Yumil Kaxob

(meaning 'owner of crop')

God of agriculture/flora and
associated with the Maize God

From his head sprouted an ear of maize
and he wore a headdress.

Was important because the diet of the
Maya was 80% maize and they relied on
the harvest being successful.



Mayan Gods

Chac

(meaning 'rain')

Rain god who brought the rain needed to make crops grow.

Created storms, thunder and lightning.

Caused wars and human sacrifice.

Portrayed as a human with a curling snout and reptile fangs.



Mayan Gods

Kimi

(meaning 'Lord of Death')

Death god who ruled over the underworld.

Portrayed as a human with a skeletal nose, jaw and spine along with a body covered in hideous spots.



Mayan Gods

K'inich Ahau (meaning 'sun-eyed')

Sun god who brought the sun up
in the morning and down every
evening.

Portrayed in human form as an old
man with large square eyes and a
hooked nose.



Your task:

Lenses:



- Pick a God that you want to carry out your study on.
- You can use the websites below to help you.
- On the next slide, I have shown you how to collect your facts. You can then write them up as a paragraph or keep them in bullet points.
- There is an **optional** fact sheet which you can use to present your findings instead!
- [Maya Religion, Gods, Cosmos and religious rituals \(KS2\) \(mayaarchaeologist.co.uk\)](http://mayaarchaeologist.co.uk)
- [Maya Civilization for Kids: Religion and Mythology \(ducksters.com\)](http://ducksters.com)
- [Mayan gods and goddesses for Kids / The Maya: history, culture & religion \(the-maya.eu\)](http://the-maya.eu)
- [Mayan Gods For Kids | Mayan God Names | DK Find Out](#)

Example:

- Name:
- What were they God of?
- Appearance:
- Interesting facts/special features:
- Meaning of the Gods special name:
- You can add a picture/s or draw your own.



Plenary: Pok a Tok (OPTIONAL)

Pok a Tok was a popular game played in ancient Maya times. It was played by everyone – even prisoners of war and the guards themselves!

If you have a ball, or a similar shaped object you can use, try and create your own (safe) version of Pok a Tok!

The aim of the game is to get a ball through a narrow hoop... the tricky part is that you cannot use your hands or feet! Only your head, shoulders, elbows, wrists and hips can be used.

If you want to have a go at this, please share photos of your attempts with us! Make sure you are playing this as safely as possible.

If you don't have the equipment, don't worry, as we will play this game when we return to school.