

Most historians, given the choice, would have preferred to live in Mayan lands than in Anglo Saxon Britain.
Why?

KS2: Years 5 and 6

History

What should I already know about?

- Chronology: Stone Age to Anglo Saxons
- Creation Stories: The Christian-Judeo creation story from the Bible; Year 6s will know about the Norse gods and Ygdrasil
- The Anglo Saxons: village life, Christianity, law and order, art and culture
- The Ancient Egyptians and their achievements
- Historical evidence: different kinds of evidence available including archaeological and written; primary and secondary sources and their reliability

Key Vocabulary

Frederick Catherwood	glyphs
Chronology	astronomy
Ancient civilisation	monument
Central America	sacrifice, ritual

Key Knowledge about Mayan Achievements



They constructed buildings with varied purpose and design; for example pyramids, monuments and temples. The pyramid known as El Castillo has a remarkable design.

Ordinary Mayans lived in oval houses with thatched roofs.

A ball game called Pok ta Pok was played on courts with high platforms and sloped walls.

Mayan Writing



Mayans recorded using glyphs, often carved on to stone monuments.

They also had thousands of books called codices.

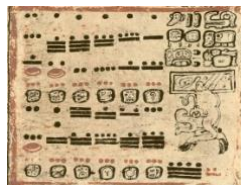
These were made with chalk-coated paper made from fig bark.

Frederick Catherwood's Evidence

He was a Victorian artist and explorer, who is credited with rediscovering much of Mayan Civilisation.

He was keen to record and share his Mayan findings but manipulated artefacts to create a more pleasing image.

His works showed the Mayans to be much more sophisticated than people assumed.



When and Where?



Mayan Religion

The Mayans worshiped numerous gods. Many of these had animalistic characteristics.

Gods represented different aspects of life and sacrifices were often made to them in the hope of good favour.

<p>Maths was used to record the movements of the sun, moon and planets. They had an astronomical observatory. They created a remarkably accurate calendar. They had a base-20 number system.</p>	<p>Central America 2000 BC – 1500 AD We are studying 900 AD – 1500 AD The Post-Classic Era.</p>	<p>They believed the Earth had the form of a giant turtle that floated on an endless ocean.</p>
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