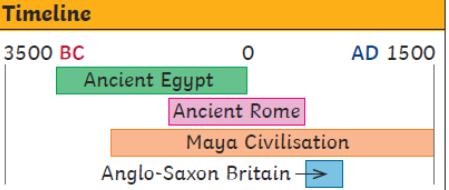


Year Group: 6	Term: Summer Enquiry: Why did the Maya civilisation end so abruptly and never reappear?	Unit Title: Mayans Driver Subject/s: History	
Timeline  Geography – location of the Mayan World: physical geography, the climate, biomes, terrain etc. Compare to modern day countries/ geography.  Mayan Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayan cities (polities) had similar layouts to each other. They would have a palace for the ruler, a plaza for the marketplaces and temples, in the form of pyramids. There was no overarching ruler of the Mayans, each polity had their own ruling family. The Mayan Empire grew because they knew how to grow crops like maize even in the harsh terrain (look at images of the landscape), how to irrigate fields (link to Ancient Egyptians), how to hunt and they were also successful traders. Mayan cities were often found near trade routes and good farmland. Mayan merchants traded many goods including salt, cotton, honey and jade. Priests were considered the most important people in the Mayan culture. Warriors, craftsmen and traders were next in the hierarchy. Farmers, workers and slaves were at the bottom of the hierarchy. The Mayan calendar (Tzolkin) consisted of 260 days and 13 months. The demise of the Mayan civilisation came about because of a mixture of deforestation, land erosion and drought. Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayans were polytheists, believing in many nature gods or deities. They believed that the gods had a good side and a bad side and that the gods could help or hurt them. They would perform different rituals during festivals or special ceremonies in order to appeal to the gods. The Maya would dance, sing and sometimes make offerings of blood to the gods. 	 Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Maya writing system, used to write several different Maya languages, was made up of over 800 symbols called glyphs. Some glyphs were logograms, representing a whole word, and some were syllabograms, representing units of sound. They were carved onto stone buildings and monuments and painted onto pottery. Maya scribes also wrote books, called codices, made from the bark of fig trees. Only priests and noblemen would know the whole written language. <p>The Maya developed a complex number and counting system that was advanced for their time. They were one of only two cultures in the world to develop the concept of zero.</p> Science <p>How to group materials based on their properties using more complex vocabulary.</p> <p>Eg: magnetic, transparent, flexible, permeable, soluble, insoluble</p> <p>What are thermal insulators and conductors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials which are good thermal conductors allow heat to move through them easily. Thermal conductors are used to make items that require heat to travel through them easily, such as a saucepan which requires heat to travel through to cook food. Thermal insulators do not let heat travel through them easily. Examples of thermal insulators include woollen clothes and flasks for hot drinks. <p>What are electrical insulators and conductors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrical conductors allow electricity to pass through them easily while electrical insulators do not. Electrical insulators have a high resistance which means that it is hard for electricity to pass through these objects. <p>What is dissolving?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the particles of a solid mix with the particles of a liquid, this is called dissolving. The result is a solution. Materials that dissolve are soluble. Materials that do not dissolve are insoluble. <p>Can materials be separated after they have been mixed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some materials can be separated after they have been mixed based on their properties - this is called a reversible change. Some methods of separation include the use of a magnet, a filter (for insoluble materials), a sieve (based on the size of the solids) and evaporation. When a mixture cannot be separated back into the original components, this is called an irreversible change. Examples of this include when materials burn or mixing bicarbonate of soda with vinegar. 		

Key History Vocabulary:

archaeologist - someone who studies the past by exploring old remains
architecture - the art of planning, designing and constructing buildings
Chichen Itza - a village in Yucatán state in Mexico: site of important Mayan ruins. A UNESCO World Heritage Site
chronology - the order of events in time
circa - Latin meaning 'around'. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
civilisation - a human society with its own social organisation and culture.
climate - the general weather conditions that are typical of a place
codices - Ancient handwritten texts. Maya **codices** could be unfolded like a concertina. One text is called a codex.
continent - a very large area of land that consists of many countries. South America is a continent.
culture - activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilisation
deforestation - if an area is deforested, all the trees there are cut down
deities - a god or goddess
demise - something or someone is their end or death
drought - a long period of time during which no rain falls.
economy - the wealth that a society or country gets from business and industry
erosion - the gradual destruction and removal of rock or soil
fertile - rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants
hierarchy - a system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance, for example in society
indigenous - people or things belong to the country in which they are found
Mayan - of, relating to, or characteristic of the Maya or any of their languages
merchant - a person who buys or sells goods in large quantities
Mesoamerica - Central America - the countries consist of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Belize; and the western sections of Honduras and Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica
plaza - an open square in a city
polytheists - the worship of or belief in more than one god
society - people in general, thought of as a large organized group
trade - the activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services

Key Science Vocabulary:

circuit - a complete route which an electric current can flow around
condensation - small drops of water which form when water vapour or steam touches a cold surface, such as a window
conductor - a substance that heat or electricity can pass through or along
dissolves - when a substance is mixed with a liquid and the substance disappears
electricity - a form of energy that can be carried by wires and is used for heating and lighting, and to provide power for devices
evaporation - to turn from liquid into gas; pass away in the form of vapour.
filtering - a device used to remove dirt or other solids from liquids or gases. A filter can be made of paper, charcoal, or other material with tiny holes in it.
flexible - an object or material can be bent easily without breaking
gas - a form of matter that is neither liquid nor solid. A gas rapidly spreads out when it is warmed and contracts when it is cooled.
insoluble - impossible to dissolve, esp. in a given liquid.
insulator - a non-conductor of electricity or heat
irreversible - impossible to reverse, turn back, or change.
liquid - in a form that flows easily and is neither a solid nor a gas.
magnetic - having to do with magnets and the way they work
melting - to change from a solid to a liquid state through heat or pressure
particles - a tiny amount or small piece
permeable - of a substance, being such that gas or liquid can pass through it
process - a series of actions used to produce something or reach a goal.
properties - the ways in which an object behaves
rate - the speed with which something happens
resistance - the opposing power of one force against another.
reversible - able to turn or change back
solid - having a firm shape or form that can be measured in length, width, and height; not like a liquid or a gas
soluble - able to be dissolved.
solution - a mixture that contains two or more substances combined evenly
state - the structure or condition of something
temperature - a measure of how hot or cold something is
thermal - relating to or caused by heat or by changes in temperature
transparent - If an object is transparent, you can see through it
variable - something that can change or that has no fixed value
water cycle - the process by which water on the earth evaporates, then condenses in the atmosphere, and then returns to earth in the form of precipitation.