

History

In this topic, the children will explore the ancient Maya civilisation, from their impressive architecture to the Maya writing system and examples of the Maya 'glyphs'. Children will delve into their history to find out what happened during the invasion by the Spanish conquistadores!

Geography

This half-term, the children will:

- Use world maps and satellite images to locate Mexico, identifying which hemisphere it is in and the countries that surround it.
- Use maps, atlases and globes to locate the Chihuahuan Desert. The children will learn about the animal and plant species found there, what the climate is like, the people who live there and the difficulties they face.
- Find out about daily life in Mexico, especially what it's like for children of a similar age.
- Locate some of the main cities of the ancient Maya civilisation on a map of South America.

PSHE

This half-term, the children will explore different case studies to prompt discussions and develop their debating skills. The topics include the case of Nelson Mandela, Ghandi, caring for the elderly and child slavery.

PE

Children will be developing their skills of throwing and batting in cricket. In addition, they will be developing their tennis and rounders skills.

Welcome to Mexico! Explore this unique country with its towering temples and stunning geography. Rich in history belonging to the Maya civilisation, get ready to be amazed and have your taste buds tantalised!

HOLA MEXICO!



Science

This half-term, children will be revising over the topics covered in Year 6: classification and adaptation, evolution and inheritance, light, blood and heart and electricity. In addition, they will also be extending their investigation skills whilst carrying out various experiments. They will also be practising SATs style science questions as well.



Maths/ICT

Children will be starting an exciting entrepreneurial challenge to make something, sell it and make a profit after being given only £5! Who can rise to the challenge?

They will also be carrying out more mathematical investigations and problems solving.

Literacy

Children will be reading the book 'Holes' by Lewis Sacher and compile various pieces of writing. Children will also create a holiday brochure for Mexico.

Art/DT

In this topic, the children will:

- Read a range of recipes for traditional and contemporary Mexican fruit drinks and choose one to make.
- Make a savoury Mexican dish
- Find out about the Maya chocolate making process and then make their own chocolate experimenting with different flavours.
- Create amazing soap carvings of the intricate Maya stelae.
- Taste foods enjoyed and in some cases introduced to the world by the ancient Maya civilisation, including avocado, guacamole, tortilla, sweet potato, squash, papaya, a Horchata drink (a blend of milk, sugar, ground almonds and vanilla) and salsa.
- Enjoy a sweet Mexican treat, such as arroz con leche ice pops!



HOME LEARNING IDEAS

Which part of Mexico would you prefer to live in, and why? Write down your ideas and share them with others in your class.

Find out more about Maya hieroglyphs and symbols. Can you write your name or a short message to a friend?

Do your family or friends know anyone who has been to Mexico? If so, can you talk to the person and find out more? What is their impression of the country?

Find out about Mexican flowers, trees and animals. Some are very different to those found in the UK! Record what you learn in a notebook or picture chart.

In Mexico, the most common spoken language is Spanish. Can you find out how to say some phrases in Spanish? Do you know anyone who speaks Spanish? Impress them with a Spanish conversation!

Go to the supermarket and see if you can find out about any food that is imported from Mexico - try fruit or vegetables.

Design and build a Maya temple/structure using junk materials, such as cardboard boxes, newspaper and card.

How much do other people know about Mexico? Create questions for a fun quiz and try it out on family or friends.

Plan an imaginary trip or holiday to Mexico. Look at holiday brochures or research online. How many ways are there to get there? How long would it take? How much would it cost? Make an itinerary for your trip, showing what you would like to see and do while you are there.

Make a typical Mexican dish, such as guacamole or tacos.