



# Mossfield Primary School Knowledge Organiser



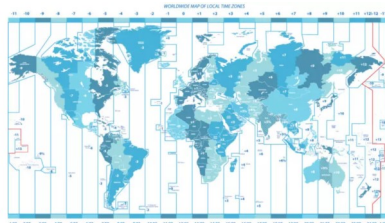
**Year 5 - Mexico and the Mayans.** The Mayan, or Maya, peoples made their home in an area known as Mesoamerica (modern day Mexico and Central America). Mayan culture was well established by 1000 BCE, and it lasted until 1697 CE. They developed a sophisticated culture of city states with monumental buildings and characteristic stepped pyramids.

## Key Learning

To be able to locate a country in an atlas and using longitude and latitude.



To understand that the world has time zones .



To be able to compare the UK and Mexico.



To understand how ancient civilisations lived.



To learn about Mayan Society.



To reflect on the beliefs of other cultures.



To learn about the Mayan gods.



To understand the traditions of other cultures.



To learn about the Mexican and Mayan way of life.



To celebrate our learning on Mexico and the Mayans with others.



# Key Vocabulary

Artefact	An object that is made by a person, such as a tool or a decoration, especially one that is of historical interest.
Civilisation	The society, culture, and way of life of a particular area or time in history.
Chichen Itza	The most powerful city-state during the Maya period. Now a popular tourist destination.
Cenote	A sinkhole or pit filled with water, cenotes were sources of water for the Maya and were also used as places of sacrifice.
Dynasty	A series of rulers or leaders who are all from the same family, or a period when a country is ruled by them.
Empire	A group of countries ruled by a single person, government or country
Glyphs	A symbol used in writing.
Latitude	Distance north/south of the earth's equator.
Longitude	Distance east/west of Greenwich meridian.
Maize	Also known as corn, is a cereal grain.
Prediction	A statement about what you think will happen in the future.
Temple	A building used for the worship of a god or gods in some religions.
Tomb	A large stone structure or underground room where someone, especially an important person, is buried.
Worship	To have or show a strong feeling or respect and admiration for a God or a Goddess.

**1,100 BC**

The first 'Mayan' settlements begin to appear in Mesoamerica along the pacific coast.



**800BC**

Instead of foraging, maize farming begins and trade between villages begins.



**700BC**

Mayan writing begins to develop through the form of hieroglyphs.



**100BC – 450AD**

Maya constructs its first pyramids and developing cities, prompting the rapid rise of Tikal in the tropical lowlands.



**638AD**

Pakal the Great (King of Palenque) dies. His death mask made of jade is created.



**800AD – 1,502AD**

Mayan civilization begins to decline and vanish. The Mayan ruins are found by a Spanish expedition lead by Francisco Hernández de Córdoba.

