

## Mayan Vocabulary

<b>Civilisation</b>	An organised society with its own culture and way of life, existing in a particular area over a particular period of time.
<b>Codices</b>	Ancient handwritten texts. Maya codices could be unfolded like a concertina. One text is called a codex.
<b>Cacao beans</b>	Cocoa trees sprout pods directly from their trunks. When they are ripe, the pods can be broken open to reveal the beans, which can then be dried, roasted and ground.
<b>Drought</b>	A long period of time with very little rain.
<b>Jaguar</b>	A big cat, heavier than a leopard, with yellowish fur and black spots.
<b>Maize</b>	Another word for sweetcorn or corn on the cob. It can be made into a dough and baked into tortillas.
<b>Ritual</b>	A ceremony, often religious, with set actions performed in a set order.

## 'Chocolate'

### (The Mayans & Rainforests) Knowledge Organiser



The Maya lived in Mesoamerica

### The Mayans

The Maya civilisation began long ago in a place called 'Mesoamerica'. This huge area is made up of Mexico and part of central America. The Mayas built amazing cities like Tikal and Palenque.

Even though they live in different cities, ruled by different kings and queens, the Mayas shared a lot of common beliefs and traditions.

They were experts at reading the stars and even built their cities as a map of the sky. They were also inspired by the creatures of the forest and share many legends about animals, plants and nature spirits.

### Food

The Mayans discovered the cacao bean which grew where they lived. This bean was dried, ground and mixed with water to create a drink. Not the hot chocolate drink we know today; theirs was often mixed with chilli and had quite a bitter taste. They thought that chocolate was a gift from the gods; it was more precious than gold. Maize was also a very important crop which made up 80% of their diet.



### Religion

The Maya believe in and worshipped a number of different gods. They believed that gods had a good side and a bad side and that the gods could help them or hurt them.

### Writing

The Maya writing system was made up of over 800 symbols called glyphs. Some glyphs were logograms, representing a whole word, and some syllabograms, representing units of sound. They were carved on to building sand monuments and painted onto pottery.

### Number

The Maya developed a complex number and counting system. They used just three symbols, though to represent items that the Maya people might have first used to count with, such as pebbles, sticks and shells.

#### 2000BC

The Maya Civilisation comes into being in Central America.

#### 300BC

Cities, such as El Mirador, become large and powerful.

#### 900 AD

Cities in the rainforest are abandoned due to an extensive drought. People move north to the highlands of Guatemala.

#### 1000 AD

Cities like Chichén Itza are still thriving.

#### 1500s AD

The Spanish arrive in South America and set out to destroy the remaining elements of Mayan civilisation.

#### 1839 AD

American explorer and writers, John Lloyd Stephens, and British artist, Frederick Catherwood explore Copan and extensively document what they find, reigniting

#### 2014 AD

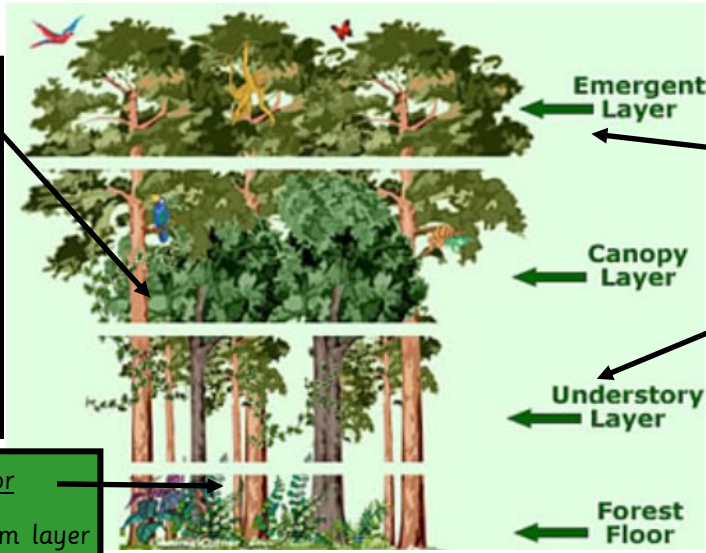
Cities of Kanguita and Tamchen are re-discovered.

# Rainforest Vocabulary

<b>Biomes</b>	Regions of the world with similar climate, animals and plants..
<b>Climate</b>	The usual weather conditions, averaged over many years.
<b>Deforestation</b>	The action of clearing or cutting down a vast area of trees.
<b>Equator</b>	An imaginary line that divides the earth in two halves.
<b>Habitat</b>	The natural home or environment of an animal or plant.
<b>Humid</b>	Having high levels of moisture (water vapour) air.
<b>Rainforest</b>	A dense forest, usually found in tropical areas high rainfall.

Canopy Layer  
This layer is located under the emerging layer. It is home to most of the animals and plants of the rainforest. There is lots of food and shelter here.

Forest Floor  
This is the bottom layer of the Rainforest. This layer is dark, hot, humid. Only 5% of sunlight reaches the forest floor. Most of the larger animals live here like, elephants jaguars and tigers.



Emergent Layer  
This is the top layer of the Rainforest. It is hot, wet, and windy in . Only a few animals like small monkeys and some birds live in this layer.

Understory Layer  
The understory layer does not get much sunlight. It is very dark and humid. The understory is home to smaller animals, like insects and snakes. Some larger animals like to hunt here.



	<b>Sherwood Forest</b>	<b>Amazon Rainforest</b>
<b>Location</b>	Nottinghamshire, UK	Across 9 countries in South America (60% in Brazil)
<b>Age</b>	12,000 years	55 million years
<b>Size</b>	4 square km	5.5 million square km
<b>Rivers</b>	Idle, Maun, Meden, Poulter	Amazon
<b>Plants</b>	Oak, silver birch, rowan, holly, hawthorn	40,000 species. Fruite trees, plants to use for medicenes.
<b>Animals</b>	Spiders, beetles, bats, birds	Insects, many rare animals
<b>Inhabitants</b>	Only a few villages. 500,000 people visit each year.	250,000 people living in tribes. May be 50 tribes who had never been in contact with other people.

<b>Stone Age</b> 15000 BC to 3,000BC	<b>The Ancient Maya</b> 2000 BC—1,500AD	<b>Romans</b> AD 43 to AD 410	<b>Anglo Saxons</b> AD 410 to AD 1066	<b>Vikings</b> AD 793 to AD 1066	<b>Victorians</b> AD 1837 to AD 1901	<b>World Wars</b> AD 1914 to 1918 1939 to 1945
	<b>Ancient Egypt</b> 3100 BC to 30BC	<b>Ancient Greece</b> 776BC to 146BC				