

The Magnificent Maya: A Journey Through Time with Ellie

Step back in time to the rainforests of Central America and uncover the secrets of a brilliant civilisation!

- The Maya lived in independent city-states, each ruled by its own powerful leader, rather than having one single king for the whole empire.
- They developed a complex system of writing using symbols called hieroglyphics, which they carved into stone monuments and painted in special books.
- Maya farmers were incredibly skilled; they grew maize, beans, and squash, which were the main foods that kept their large cities thriving.
- They were master mathematicians who invented a way to use the number zero, which made their calculations for trade and timekeeping much easier.
- Ellie the elephant notes that the Maya built towering stone temples in the middle of dense rainforests, often using tools made from wood and stone.

Did you know? Did you know? The Maya were expert astronomers! They built massive pyramids with precise alignment to the sun and stars to track the seasons, which helped them know exactly when to plant their crops.

Key vocabulary: Civilisation · Hieroglyphics · City-state · Astronomy · Temple · Rainforest