

Ellie's Expedition: Uncovering the Maya Civilisation

Step into the jungle with Ellie and discover the secrets of a lost empire!

- The Maya civilisation was not a single country, but a collection of independent city-states, each ruled by its own king or queen.
- Farmers grew a variety of crops in the rainforest, but their most important food source was maize, which is known today as sweetcorn.
- The Maya built towering stone pyramids and temples, often decorated with colourful carvings and statues to honour their gods.
- Using their knowledge of the stars and planets, the Maya created incredibly accurate calendars to track time and agricultural seasons.
- They were skilled craftspeople who created beautiful jewellery from jade and gold, and pottery painted with intricate designs.

Did you know? Did you know? The Maya were brilliant mathematicians and astronomers! They developed a complex writing system using symbols called hieroglyphs, and they were one of the first civilisations to use the number zero in their calculations.

Key vocabulary: Chichén Itzá · Hieroglyphics · Maize · Astronomy · City-state · Temple