

Ellie's Maya Civilisation Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and describe key features of the Maya civilisation, including their achievements, society, and daily life.

Use your history books and classroom resources to research the Maya civilisation. Fill in each section of this fact-file to show what you have learned. Ellie the elephant is looking for clear, accurate details to add to her historical collection!

Word bank: Chichén Itzá · Hieroglyphs · Maize · Observatory · Temple · Cacao · Astronomy · Calendar · City-state · Rainforest

1. Location and Geography: Where did the Maya people live, and what was the environment like in this region? (2 marks)

2. Daily Life and Food: What was a staple crop for the Maya, and how did they obtain their food? (2 marks)

3. Writing and Communication: Explain how the Maya recorded information and what their writing system was called. (3 marks)

4. Scientific Achievements: Choose one area where the Maya were advanced (such as astronomy or math) and explain their contribution. (3 marks)

5. Architecture: Describe the purpose of the large stone structures built in Maya cities. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a Maya architect. On the back of this sheet, design a building for a new city-state. Label the materials you would use and explain one special feature of your design.