



Year 5 – Mexico and Mayans – Knowledge Organiser

Subject Specific Vocabulary			Exciting Books		
monarchy	A state that has a monarch			<h3>Important</h3> <p>The Day of the Dead (Spanish: Día de los Muertos) is a Mexican holiday celebrated throughout Mexico, in particular the Central and South regions, and by people of Mexican heritage elsewhere. The multi-day holiday involves family and friends gathering to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died, and helping support their spiritual journey.</p> <p>The Mayans built pyramids for religious purposes: to make sacrifices to the gods, or in honour of the gods.</p>	
endemic	Native and restricted to a certain place				
rituals	A religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order				
beliefs	An acceptance that something exists				
culture	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people and society				
myths	A traditional story involving supernatural beings or events	Sticky Knowledge about the Mexicans and Mayans			
sacrifice	The act of surrendering a possession, as an offering to a deity	<input type="checkbox"/> The Maya is a Mesoamerican civilization, noted for Maya script, the only known fully developed writing system of the pre-Columbian Americas, as well as for its art, architecture, and mathematical and astronomical systems.			
Mexico City	The capital and largest city of Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> The Ancient Maya developed the science of astronomy, calendar systems and hieroglyphic writing.			
civilization	The stage of human social and cultural development and organisation that is considered most advanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Mexico is a country in North America and it borders: the USA, Guatemala and Belize.			
Maya	A Mesoamerican civilization	<input type="checkbox"/> The Mayans had a class society. Upper class – nobles and priests. The middle class – craftsmen, warriors and traders. Lower class – farmers, workers, slaves and peasants.			
glyph	A hieroglyphic character or symbol	<input type="checkbox"/> The reason why the Mayans disappeared is a mystery. The three main arguments are: overpopulation, endemic warfare and drought			
skilled	The ability to do something well				

