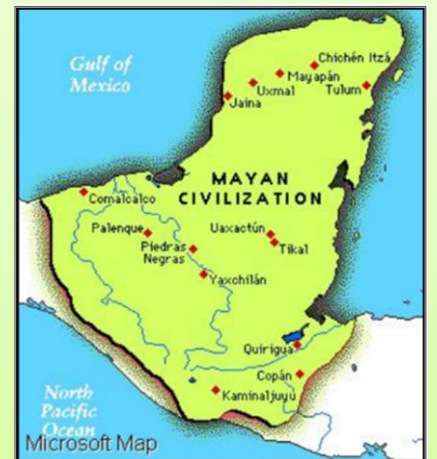


Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary

1. **Maya** – A civilisation that lived in Central America, known for their cities, writing, and knowledge of maths and astronomy.
2. **Civilisation** – A developed society with its own culture, government, and way of life.
3. **City-state** – An independent city with its own ruler and government (e.g. Tikal or Chichén Itzá).
4. **Hierarchy** – A system where people are ranked by importance, from kings at the top to slaves at the bottom.
5. **King (Ajaw)** – The ruler of a Maya city, believed to be chosen by the gods.
6. **Pyramid** – A large stone structure with steps, used for temples and ceremonies.
7. **Glyphs** – Symbols used in Maya writing to represent words or sounds.
8. **Codex (plural: codices)** – A folded book made from bark paper, used by the Maya to record information.
9. **Sacrifice** – A religious act where offerings (sometimes people) were given to the gods.
10. **Calendar** – A system the Maya used to track time, seasons, and religious events.

The Mayans



Sticky Knowledge

1. The Ancient Maya lived in Central America over 2,000 years ago, in places like modern-day Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize.
2. The Maya built large cities with pyramids, temples, and plazas, even though they did not use metal tools or wheels.
3. Maya society was organised in a hierarchy, with kings and nobles at the top and farmers and slaves at the bottom.
4. The Maya invented their own writing system using glyphs and created books called codices to record information.
5. The Maya were skilled mathematicians and astronomers, creating accurate calendars to track time and predict important events.