

LO: To investigate what daily
life was like for the Mayans

Mayan clothes...

The clothing worn by the Mayans depended on the region they lived in and their social status.

The wealthy Mayans wore colourful clothing made from animal skins.

Wealthy Mayans also wore feather headdresses and fancy jewellery.



The Maya loved to wear large hats and headdresses. The more important the person, the taller the hat they wore!



Farmers wore much simpler clothing.

The men often wore loincloths while the women wore long skirts.

Both men and women would use a blanket called a manta to wrap around their shoulders when it was cold.



Mayan food...

The most important food that the Mayans ate was maize, which is a vegetable like corn.

They made all types of food from maize including tortillas, porridge, and even drinks.

Other staple foods included beans, squash, and chillies.

For meat the Mayans ate fish, deer, ducks, and turkey.





The Maya introduced the world to a number of new foods such as tomatoes, sweet potatoes, black beans and papaya.



The most interesting food the Mayans introduced was chocolate from the cacao tree.



The Maya considered chocolate to be a gift from the gods and used cacao seeds as money.



Mayan homes...

If you were a Mayan noble or king you lived inside the city in large palaces made from stone.





Mayan farmers lived in huts outside the city near their farms.

The huts were usually made from mud, but were sometimes made from stone.

They were single room homes with thatched roofs.

In many areas the Maya built their huts on top of platforms made from dirt or stone in order to protect them from floods.



What did the Mayans do for entertainment?

Although much of the Maya life was spent doing hard work, they did enjoy entertainment as well.

A lot of their entertainment was centred around religious ceremonies. They played music, danced, and played games such as the Maya ball game. The picture below shows a Mayan ball court...





Sometimes the ball games that the Maya played were part of a religious ceremony.

The losers were sacrificed to the gods.

The Mayans had hundreds of different dances. Many of these dances are still practiced today. Some examples of the dances include the Snake dance, the Monkey dance, and the Dance of the Stag.



TASK:

- **DON'T WORRY! It's not write a diary entry.**
- **Your task is to construct a 'Maya Life' fact poster. This should include:**
 - 1. A drawing of a Mayan in traditional dress.**
 - 2. A list of Mayan foods**
 - 3. A description of the different houses, (that can include drawings)**
 - 4. Two or three sentences about entertainment/sport.**

Pictures to decorate your poster with:

