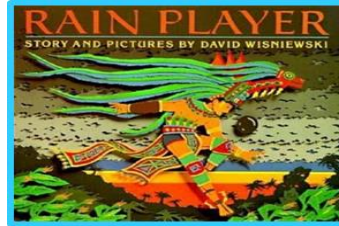


# The Maya Knowledge Mat

## Vocabulary

Mesoamerica	historic parts of central America and Mexico. (Modern day countries of northern Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize, and central to southern Mexico.)
civilisation	an organised society with its own culture and way of life, existing in a particular area over a particular period of time.
empire	a group of countries ruled by a single person, government or country.
inhabitant	a person or animal that is a permanent resident of a particular place or region.
isthmus	a narrow piece of land connecting two larger areas across an expanse of water.
dependency	a country or province controlled by another.
hieroglyphics	an advanced form of writing. In Mayan hieroglyphics, they used symbols (also called glyphs) to represent words, sounds, or objects
cacao	seeds that the Maya used to make chocolate.
drought	a long period of time with very little rain.
Pok-a-tok	a religious game where players would have to use their bodies to get a ball through a stone hoop

## Our exciting text is...



Our enquiry question is...  
Why do things change?

Our concept is...  
Perseverance



## Key Knowledge

There are 23 countries in North America.

Central America connects North America to South America. These countries are on the continent of North America. (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama,)

South America consists of 12 countries and 2 dependencies.

The 12 countries of South America are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela.

The 2 dependencies of South America are French Guiana (a dependency of France) and the Falkland Islands (a dependency of UK).

The Maya were a civilisation who lived in Mesoamerica between approximately 2000 BC and 900AD.

The Maya legacy:

- \* They invented a sophisticated writing system of hieroglyphs.
- \* A sophisticated culture in which they lived in city states.
- \* Built spectacular monuments and stepped pyramids(e.g. Chichen Itza)
- \* Advanced maths, including developing the concept of zero.
- \* Calendars.
- \*Advanced agricultural methods
- \*Inventing a bitter chocolatey drink made from cacao beans

Comparison of UK and Guatemala

- \*Population in UK 63,742,977: Guatemala 14,647,083
- \*UK Capital City is London: Guatemala is Guatemala City
- \* School is free in UK for children aged 3 to 18; Schooling is free in Guatemala for children aged 7 to 14.
- \*UK official language English: Guatemala official language is Spanish
- \*UK typically has 4 seasons: Guatemala has 2 seasons (Rainy and dry)