

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

Maya, Aztec, and Inca Civilizations

INTENTIONS OF THE LESSON

I WANT STUDENTS TO:

- 1.) **KNOW** that the civilizations of Mesoamerica developed long rich histories before the arrival and influence of the Europeans.
- 2.) **UNDERSTAND** the impact of technology and explain how Mesoamerica advances in technology and influenced the world in mathematics and engineering.
- 3.) Identify the key components of the Aztec civilization and complete a PERSIAN Chart (**SKILL**).

DO NOW: If you had an opportunity to re-write the history of your family so that it reflects only what you want it to say...What would you write?

Mesoamerica

_____ = Mexico & Central America.

Some of the greatest civilizations in the Americas developed in _____.

The _____ and _____ lived in the Mesoamerican region.

How did people first get to the Americas?

- Theory #1 = _____ land bridge
 - Humans migrated into North America from Asia by crossing over a _____ between Alaska and Siberia.
- Theory #2 = _____
 - Humans migrated to the Americas by crossing the seas, most likely the Pacific Ocean, and settling along the _____ coasts of the Americas.

Where did the ancient _____ live?

- The _____ settled on the _____ peninsula in central America.

Maya Political Structure

- The Maya were NOT AN _____ and NOT _____ politically.
- Maya civilizations was made up of _____ - _____.
- Each city-state had its own _____.

Maya Architecture

- Built towering _____ and _____.
- Atop the temples, priests performed religious ceremonies and _____ while people watched from the plazas below.
- Ceremonial platforms, temples, pyramids, observatories, ball courts all built by the Maya.

Maya Religion

- The Maya were _____.
- The Maya practiced _____ sacrifice.

Advances in learning

- The Maya created a _____ system of _____.
- The Maya created a set of _____.
- Also developed a _____-day calendar.

What happened to the Maya?

- The Maya _____ many of their cities around 900 A.D.
- Archaeologists DO NOT KNOW _____ Maya civilization declined.
- Theory: Around 900 A.D. there was a severe drought. Many died due to _____, and others _____ away.

Maya today

- ...more than _____ Maya people live in Guatemala and southern Mexico today.

Video Clip

- Write one thing that you found interesting:

Aztecs

Where did the _____ live?

- The Aztecs lived in what is known as the _____
_____ in central Mexico.

Tenochtitlan

- _____ was the capital city of the Aztec Empire.

Legend of Tenochtitlan

- The gods told the Aztecs to search for an _____ holding a _____ in its beak perched atop a cactus. This is where they were to _____ their capital city. The Aztecs saw this sign on a swampy island in lake _____.

How did the Aztecs build a city in the center of a lake?

- Tenochtitlan was built on an _____
- It was connected to the mainland by _____ leading to the north, south, and west of the city.
- The city was interlaced with a series of _____, so that all sections of the city could be visited either on foot or by _____.
- Today, Tenochtitlan is _____.

Government

- The Aztecs created an empire through _____.
- Conquered people and local rulers had to pay _____ to the Aztecs.
- The Aztecs had an _____.
- The Aztecs Emperor's main job was to lead in _____.

Religion & Mythology

- Aztecs were _____
- Huitzilopochtli was the main Aztec god.
- The Aztecs built massive _____ and _____ dedicated to their gods.
- Pyramid of the _____.
- Pyramid of the _____.

Human Sacrifice

- Human sacrifice was a common practice of the Aztecs.
- For the reconsecration of Great Pyramid of Tenochtitlan in 1487, the Aztecs reported that they sacrificed _____ prisoners over the course of _____ days.
- To give the _____ strength to rise each day, human sacrifices were offered.

What happened to the Aztecs?

- Spanish _____ led by _____ conquered Tenochtitlan and defeated the Aztecs in 1521.

Video Clip - "Engineering an Empire"

- Write one thing that you found interesting:

Video Clip – "What The Ancients Did For Us"

- Write one thing that you found interesting:

Inca

Where did the Inca live?

- The Inca controlled an empire in the _____ region of South America.

Government

- The _____ (emperor) had absolute power.
- The emperor claimed to be the _____.
- The emperor was also the empire's _____ leader.
- The empire was divided into four regions with the capital at Cuzco.

Uniting the Empire

- The Inca built a massive _____ network through mountains and across rivers and gorges.

Stonework

- The Inca constructed stone temples without using _____ yet the stones fit together so well that a _____ would not fit between the stones.

Religion

- The Inca were _____.
- The primary god was _____, the sun god.
- Inca believed in _____.
- The Inca practiced _____.
 - They achieved this by wrapping tight cloth straps around the head of newborns to alter the shape of their soft skulls into a cone-like shape.

Medical Advancements

- The Inca performed successful _____ surgery.
- The Inca also used _____ to make patients unconscious during surgery.

Organization

- Each family in a community was assigned a specific _____.
- Government officials _____ marriages.
- The government organized mandatory _____ service building projects.

What happened to the Inca

- _____ war in the empire broke out. AND
- _____ spread, killing much of the Inca.

Fall of the Inca

- **BUT** ultimately, it was the Spanish conquistadors led by _____ that brought about the fall of the Inca Empire.

Video Clip – “Inca – Part 1”

- Write one thing that you found interesting: