

Native American Packet: Mayan, Aztec, and Inca



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Name _____

Teacher _____

Video: The Mayans Culture and Math

Name _____ Date _____

1. The Mayans consisted of _____ million people bound by _____, art, and ritual.
2. The Mayan ruler Pakal was known as the _____ lord. His people believed that he would rise again in the East, after his journey through the underworld.
3. The Mayan pyramids, like El Castillo, were stone representations of the Mayan _____. They were used as an almanac. They has as many steps as there are _____ in a year. The sun and moon shadows helped determine the best time to _____ and harvest crops.
4. The ancient Mayans developed the only true _____ language native to the Americas. They also created the most sophisticated _____ system ever found in the Americas.
5. The Mayan civilization began around 1000 BC; however, most of their achievements occurred during the Classic Period AD 250 to _____.
6. Write the number that matches the Mayan math symbols:
Dot= _____ Bar= _____ Shell= _____
7. Mayan math used a base _____ number system.
8. The Mayans had two calendars. The Tzolkin religious calendar had _____ days.
The Haah, or _____ calendar, had 365 days.
9. The Mayan pyramids had _____ at the top and _____ underneath. The caves contained _____.
10. The Mayan word for cave means _____.
11. What are the most interesting things you learned about the Mayans?

Social Studies: Mayans Kids Discover Assignment

Name _____ Date _____

1. According to the map, the Maya lived in which four modern countries?

2. The Maya created magnificent _____, developed an elaborate system of _____ and an accurate _____, and were able to predict eclipses.

3. List at least five things the Mayans ate.

4. How long did Pacal rule? _____ years

5. What is the purpose of Stelae?

6. What is the name of the sport played by the Maya? _____

7. The Maya plotted the movements of the sun, moon, and _____.

8. Write the following numbers using the Mayan symbols:
 - a. 8
 - b. 140
 - c. 404

9. Identify at least one form of farming practiced by the Maya.

10. Identify two ways cenotes helped the Maya.

11. Identify at least three ways the Spanish conquistadors hurt the Mayans.
12. For years, the Spanish has been searching for the legendary _____, where great riches were supposed to be found.
13. _____ recorded details about Maya life on accordion-folded books.
14. Identify two reasons it took archaeologist a long time to learn about the Maya.
15. John Lloyd Stephens and Frederick Catherwood guessed that Maya monuments depicted _____ and that the glyphs recorded the history of the _____ class.
16. How old was David Stewart when it took him only 8 hours to read most of the tablet from Palenque's Temple of the Sun?
17. Most of the more than _____ modern Maya live in rural areas of Mexico, Guatemala, and _____ - areas where their ancestors lived.
18. In the 1970s, the _____ government began a systematic campaign to _____ Maya culture, killing thousands of highland _____ and forcing tens of thousands of others to flee across the border to Mexico.
19. Maya life today reflects the long history of outside influences. Nearly every town has a Catholic _____, a public _____, and municipal buildings.
20. What are some of the most interesting things that you learned about the Mayans?

Video: The Conquistadors and the Aztecs

Name _____ Date _____

1. Five hundred years ago, in central _____, on a huge lake, ringed by volcanoes, there once stood a city more fantastic than any other in the New World, called _____, the capital of the powerful _____ Empire.
2. How many people lived in Tenochtitlan in 1502? _____
3. What was the most important of all the Aztec crops? _____
4. Today, most people in the New World are _____. A religion brought by the Spanish missionaries.
5. The Aztecs used to worship many different _____ and the biggest buildings in their towns were _____ dedicated to the gods.
6. The Aztec priests made human _____ to the gods, in the hopes of pleasing them, they would bring rains and a good _____.
7. In 1502, the Aztecs were the most powerful _____ in North America and their emperor ruled over _____ people.
8. 500 years ago, Spain was governed by king _____ and Queen Isabella.
9. Who was appointed to conquer Mexico and find gold? _____
10. List at least three things the Spaniards had that the Aztecs had never seen before.
11. Cortez was able to convince _____ of men from other tribes to join him, tribes who hated the Aztecs because of the high _____ they had to pay and because the Aztecs often turned them into _____.
12. In 1521, the Aztecs were very weak. They were starving and dying from _____.
13. What did the Conquistadors do to the Aztecs after they conquered them?

Social Studies: Aztecs

Kids Discover Assignment

Name _____ Date _____

1. In _____, after years of searching, the Aztecs chose a site in the middle of Lake _____ for their new capital.
2. Much of what we know about the Aztecs comes from _____. These are picture drawings painted on a paper like material made from strips of deerskin or tree bark. A group of glyphs is called a _____.
3. The Aztec social system had different classes. At the top of society was the all-powerful ruler known as the _____. Just below him were members of the royal family and _____, who owned most of the land and oversaw local government.
4. Joining the _____ was the fastest way for commoners to get ahead.
5. Jaguar Warriors dressed in the skins of _____. Known for their skills as scouts and _____, they were called the Soldiers of the Night.
6. The Aztecs built their empire by conquering other peoples and forcing them to pay _____.
7. The Aztecs believed they lived in the era of the fifth sun and that the world would one day end violently. To postpone that day, human _____ were performed.
8. They [priests] painted their bodies black and covered their skin in a paste made of dead _____. Chemicals in the bugs helped them stay awake for days.
9. They had two separate calendars- a solar calendar and a _____ calendar.
10. The Aztecs divided their history into _____ year time periods.

11. Special events in Aztec life included the opening of a new _____, welcoming warriors back from a victory in battle, and the death of a ruler or the appointment of a new one.
12. In Tlachtli, each team tried to knock a hard rubber _____, made from tree sap, into a small doughnut-shaped _____ in the middle of the ball court.
13. A player [in patolli] could gamble away his shirt, his home, or even _____ into slavery.
14. What two items were tied together as a sign of a couple marriage?
15. Spanish explorer and conqueror Hernan _____ arrived in Tenochtitlan in 1519, just as the 52-year cycle was ending. He wanted _____ for himself and Spain. Determined to earn riches and the approval of the King of Spain, he planned to conquer the Aztec Empire.
16. Within ten year of Cortes's conquest, all of Mexico was under Spanish rule. European brought _____ and other new diseases that killed _____ of the native people. The Aztecs scattered. Many were forced into slavery.
17. [In the Volador] men dressed like _____ spiral on ropes to the ground from the top of a huge poles. Each man circles the pole _____ times the number of days in an Aztec week.
18. Like chocolate, the _____ was first brought back to Europe by the Spanish around 1519. The Aztecs called this bird a _____, but then it made its way from Spain to dinner tables in Britain, the British renamed it turkey after another bird that came originally from the around _____.
19. Descendants of the Aztecs, called the Nahua, number over _____ million. Some still speak _____, the Aztec language.
20. What are some of the most interesting things that you learned about the Aztecs?

Video: Francisco Pizarro and the Incas

Name _____ Date _____

1. At its peak, the Incan Empire controlled almost the entire western region of _____.
2. The Conquistadors were able to conquer the Incas due to being weakened by _____ and tribal _____.
3. The Inca Empire was the _____ and richest empire in the Americas.
4. The capital of the Inca Empire was _____.
5. The Incas believed that their emperor was descended from the _____.
6. The Inca empire extended from the _____ mountains to the _____ on the western coastline and to the eastern _____.
7. The Incas created rock wall _____ on hillsides for farming.
8. Name at least two types of crops the Incas farmed.
9. The Incas had no _____ language. To keep track of numbers (quantities) they tied knots on a _____.
10. Identify at least ways llamas and alpacas helped the Incas.
11. In regards to religion, every Inca home had at least one _____.
12. The word divination means to try to see into the _____.
13. _____ conquered the Incas and founded Panama City.
14. The conquistadors captured the Inca emperor, Atanualpa, and demanded _____ After they were paid they _____ him.
15. The Spanish taught the Incas _____ and _____.

Social Studies: Incas

Kids Discover Assignment

Name _____ Date _____

1. About six hundred years ago the Inca Empire stretched _____ miles down the coast of _____ and held over _____ million subjects.
2. At its height in _____, the empire consisted of most of _____, much of _____, and parts of Ecuador, Bolivia, and _____.
3. Identify at least three ways the Inca depended on llamas.
4. The first of the great Inca rulers was _____. His name meant "he who _____ the Earth." In the 1400s, Pachacuti conquered the area around _____.
5. What probably killed Huayna Capac and what happened as a result of his death?
6. Inca men were experts with what weapon? _____
7. The key to Inca military success was organizing people and supplies. As the Inca armies advanced, they built _____ and _____ to guard their conquests.
8. The Incas considered gold to be the _____ of the sun and silver to be the tears of the moon.
9. _____ was considered a crime equal to treason.
10. By law, every adult in Inca society spent part of each year _____ for the state. This kind of forced labor was a kind of _____, called mita.

11. The Incas allowed captured leaders, especially their sons, to stay in power if they did not _____, paid the _____, and kept storehouses full.
12. How did the Incas communicate across their empire? How did news travel?
13. Provide two examples of how Incan building innovations. What did they create?
14. What happened to Inca children when they turned 13 or 14?
15. When Incans married they held hands and exchanged _____.
16. What were two advantages the Spanish had over the Incas?
17. During the first century of Spanish rule what killed over 80 percent of Peru's population?
18. What language do people in Peru and Ecuador still speak? It is the Inca language.
19. What food product is important to the Incas because it can withstand frequent frosts?
20. What device do some Peruvian Indians still use to count things, like sheep?
21. What device did the Incas use to weave?
22. What are some of the most interesting things that you learned about the Incas?