

AZTEC, MAYA, OLMEC, AND INCAS



Goals of the Activity

During this activity, you will complete the following tasks:

- ____ 1. On the map provided, you will identify where the Incan, Maya, Olmec, and Aztec empires were located.
- ____ 2. You will also describe the religion, science, decline, and culture of each civilization.
- ____ 3. You will create a timeline of the 4 civilizations noting the beginning and end of each civilization.
 - a. (This will be **ONE** timeline with all 4 civilizations on it, not 4 separate timelines).

Begin your webquest by using the links below to answer the questions and complete the tasks.

Begin your webquest here...

1. **Geography:** Use the map provided
 - Identify where the Incan, Mayan, Olmec, and Aztec civilizations were located. **Label them on the map!**
 - <http://www.lib.uci.edu/about/publications/exhibits/meso/images/3.jpg>
 - http://www.classzone.com/net_explorations/U4/U4_article1.cfm
 - In what modern countries would you have found these civilizations? **Label them on the map!**
 - <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/nalargez.htm> (Maya and Aztec)
 - <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/salargez.htm> (Inca)
2. **Religions:**
 - Were these empires polytheistic or monotheistic?
 - Name at least one god from each civilization. What they were the god of?
<http://mayaincaaztec.com/religion.html> http://www.ancient.eu/Olmec_Civilization/
 - Aztec-
 - Maya-
 - Inca-
 - Olmec -
 - Why were the pyramids of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca built? What happened at each of the temples?
 - <http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/pyramids-in-latin-america>
 - Maya-
 - Aztec-
 - Inca-

The Aztec, Olmec, Maya, and Inca Empires



Aztecs: <http://www.livescience.com/34660-tenochtitlan.html> Click on a few of the links to help find your answers.

- What was the name of the Aztec capital/main city?
- Why did they build it where they did?
- **Aztec Calendar-** <http://www.class.uh.edu/courses/engl3396/jtchris2/calendar.htm>
 - How many calendars and months did the Aztecs have? Explain each calendar
 - How is their calendar alike and different from ours?
- **Decline-** http://www.pbs.org/conquistadors/cortes/cortes_a00.html
 - Who was Hernando Cortez and how did he help bring about the end of the Aztec civilization?

Maya:

- **Calendar-** <http://www.webexhibits.org/calendars/calendar-mayan.html>
 - Discuss the Maya calendars. How accurate were they?
- **Decline-** <http://www.history.com/topics/maya> (Watch the video and read the bottom of the article.)
 - Do we know why the Maya civilization declined?

Olmec: http://www.ancient.eu/Olmec_Civilization/

- **BallGame-** <http://www.ancient.eu/article/604/>
 - Explain the ballgame played by the Olmec.
- **Decline-** http://latinamericanhistory.about.com/od/The_Olmec/a/The-Divine-Of-The-Olmec-Civilization.htm
 - Do we know why the Olmec civilization declined? Explain

Inca: <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/pizarro-traps-incan-emperor-atahualpa>

- Who was Atahualpa?
- Who was Francisco Pizarro and how did he help bring about the end of the Incan civilization?
- **Technology-**
 - Why were Inca roads so impressive? <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/ancient/lost-inca-empire.html>

- Did Incans write and keep records? <http://archaeology.about.com/od/americanancientwriting/a/quipu.htm>
- What is Macchu Pichu and who “found it”? <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/ancient/lost-inca-empire.html>

3. Timeline:

- Use the following site to help develop your timeline. Remember, you will make **ONE** timeline that contains the start and end date for each civilization. (**ONLY 8 dates**)
 - http://www.classzone.com/net_explorations/U4/U4_article1.cfm

Use this space to create the civilization timeline.
