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!
   - In what modern countries would you have found these civilizations? Label them on the map!
     - [http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/nalargez.htm](http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/nalargez.htm) (Maya and Aztec)

2. Religions:
   - Were these empires polytheistic or monotheistic?
     - Name at least one god from each civilization. What were the god of?
         - Aztec-
         - Maya-
         - Inca-
         - Olmec -
   - Why were the pyramids of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca built? What happened at each of the temples?
       - Maya-
       - Aztec-
       - Inca-
The Aztec, Olmec, Maya, and Inca Empires

- 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](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](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](http://www.webexhibits.org/calendars/calendar-mayan.html)
  - Discuss the Maya calendars. How accurate were they?

- **Decline-** [http://www.history.com/topics/maya](http://www.history.com/topics/maya)
  - (Watch the video and read the bottom of the article.)
  - Do we know why the Maya civilization declined?


  - Explain the ballgame played by the Olmec.

  - Do we know why the Olmec civilization declined? Explain

Inca:  [http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/pizarro-traps-incan-emperor-atahualpa](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](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)**


Use this space to create the civilization timeline.