

Day	Book	Reading Expectation	Follow-Up Task
Session 1	The Ancient Maya by Jackie Maloy	Chapter 3: Ancient Maya Society Please read pages 18-24 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) What could a person's headdress tell you about the person wearing it? (pg 18) 2) Ancient Maya society had different levels, who was at the lowest level of society? (pg 19) 3) Why did people worship their kings? (pg 19) 4) Why do experts believe the ancient Maya built religious structures on top of their pyramids? (pg 20) 5) While rulers lived in palaces, where did farmers live? (pg 21) 6) Why do experts believe the Maya built the temple, El Castillo, to work with their calendar? (pg 22)
Session 2	The Ancient Maya by Jackie Maloy	Chapter 4: Beauty and Beliefs Please read pages 25-30 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) How did men and women wear their hair? (pg 25) 2) What is jade and how did the ancient Maya use it? (pg 25) 3) What did Maya believe were signs of beauty? (pg 26) 4) How did the ball game, played by the Maya, have religious meaning? (pg 27) 5) What did ancient Maya do to receive good fortune? (pg 28) 6) Why did the ancient Maya sometimes bury their dead in caves? (pg 29)
Session 3	The Ancient Maya by Jackie Maloy	Chapter 5: Works of Wonder Please read pages 31-36 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) How have experts learnt so much about the Maya? (pg 31) 2) What are hieroglyphics? (pg 31) 3) What did the Maya do with their observations of the sky, the sun, planets, and stars? (pg 32) 4) How many symbols existed in the Mayan number system? (pg 33) 5) How did the Maya carve pictures on flat surfaces? (pg 34) 6) Why were bowls and vases given as gifts, to the gods of the underworld, by the wealthy when they buried their dead? (pg 35)
Session 4	The Ancient Maya by Jackie Maloy	Chapter 6: Abandoned Cities Please read pages 37-39 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) Why did experts first think the Maya abandoned their cities? (pg 37) 2) What do scientists think happened to cause the Maya to abandon their cities? (pg 38) 3) Which crop made up three quarters of the ancient Maya diet? (38) 4) What do many experts agreed happened when the cities began to fall? (pg 39) 5) Why did it become harder for the rulers when the ancient Maya stopped believing in their special powers? (pg 39)

		book together.	6) Why do experts believe that the ancient city of Cancuen was destroyed by invaders in 800 CE? (pg 39)
Session 5	The Ancient Maya by Jackie Maloy	Chapter 6: Abandoned Cities Please read pages 40-42 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) Where did the Maya continue to live after 800 CE? (pg 40) 2) How were the cities in this region different from the earlier southern cities? (pg 40) 3) Looking at the map, which is the most northerly city in the peninsula? (pg 40) 4) When did Spanish explorers arrive in the Yucatan? (pg 41) 5) Apart from many Maya dying in battle, how did many more people die? (pg 40) 6) What do the people in the Yucatan Peninsula today, have in common with the ancient Maya? (pg 42)

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Day	Follow-Up Task Answers
Session 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) In Maya society, the more important somebody was considered to be, the bigger headdress he wore. 2) Slaves were at the lowest level of society. 3) People worshipped their kings because they believed they had special powers. 4) Experts believe that the ancient Maya built religious structures on top of their pyramids because they believed these high locations brought them closer to heaven. 5) Farmers lived in simple thatched houses, built on platforms to protect them from floods. 6) Experts believe that the Maya built El Castillo to work with their calendar because El Castillo has 365 steps, the same number of days in a year.
Session 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Men and women wore their hair long. 2) Jade is a green, precious stone that was used by the Maya to make jewellery and was also inserted into their teeth. 3) The Maya considered that crossed eyes and large noses were signs of beauty. 4) Experts believe that through the ball game, the ancient Maya acted out battles between gods in both the sky and underworld, and that losing teams were sometimes killed and offered as gifts to the gods. 5) The ancient Maya believed they must pay their gods with blood, to be rewarded with good fortune. 6) The ancient Maya sometimes buried their dead in caves because they believed that after they died, their souls travelled in routes in caves to the underworld, an imaginary world beneath the earth where the dead and spirits lived.
Session 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Experts have learnt so much about the Maya from the hieroglyphics, buildings, and art that still survive today. 2) Hieroglyphics are simple pictures that represent words or sounds. 3) With their observations of the sky, the sun, planets, and stars, the Maya created calendars for different purposes; for farming, for religion and a Long Count calendar to keep track of longer time spans. 4) In the Mayan number system, there were 20 symbols. 5) The Maya didn't have metal and so used obsidian or flint, hard stone, to carve on flat surfaces.

	6) The wealthy buried their dead with gifts of bowls, to the gods of the underworld, so that loved ones would be treated well.
Session 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Experts first thought the Maya abandoned their cities because of a volcanic eruption or earthquake. 2) Scientists believe that a drought in Mesoamerica, from about 800 to 1000 CE, would have led to a lack of water and hurt farming. 3) Maize made up three quarters of the ancient Maya diet. 4) Many experts agreed that when the cities began to fall, the ancient Maya stopped believing that their rulers had special powers. 5) It became harder for the rulers because they found it hard to maintain order and keep the cities growing. 6) Experts believe that the ancient city of Cancuen was destroyed, by invaders in 800 CE, because of the weapons and abandoned palaces found there.
Session 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) After 800 C.E., the Maya continued to live in the northern part of the Yucatán Peninsula. 2) The cities in this region were different because they were not as large and didn't have the great art and buildings, like the earlier southern cities. 3) The most northerly city in the peninsula is Chichen Itza. 4) Spanish explorers arrived in the Yucatan in 1517. 5) Many Maya died in battle, but many more died because they were unable to fight the disease that the Spanish brought with them. 6) The modern day Maya grow corn and use the same methods of farming as their ancestors. In addition, Maya women today still wear the same traditional clothing as their ancestors.