

Wider Curriculum Home Learning Matrix

Year 5 Autumn Term 2026: **The Ancient Mayan Civilisation and Earth and Space**

	Create	Investigate	Explain	Perform
Science and Computing	Find out by reading information books or by using the internet what some or all the following key words mean: density, asteroid, black hole, comet, big bang theory, binary star, elliptical orbit, equinox, dwarf planet, cosmonaut, nebula, solstice. Create your own Earth and Space information poster and make sure you use the key words.	Find out some information about each of the planets of our Solar System. What is their size and distance from the sun? What is their atmosphere like and why can we not live on them? Which planets have rings around and how many do they have? Which planets have moons? How many do they have and what are their names? Can you select key information and design your own set of Top Trumps cards?	Ensure that your information poster clearly shows what you are explaining. Have you used diagrams?	Discuss with your family what you have learnt about Earth and Space and explain the meaning of the key words. Do they know what these words mean? Ask them to tell you what they know about this subject.

Time and Place	Create your own timeline dating from the beginning of the Mayan Civilisation to the end. What key events could you put on your timeline?	Find out some information about one of the Mayan Kings of the City States of Mesoamerica.	Design a poster advertising why people should visit Mesoamerica. Have a look at travel sites on the internet for ideas. Find out what countries make up Mesoamerica and chose one to focus on.	Talk with your family and friends about why people should visit your country that you have chosen? Have you persuaded them to visit it? How have you managed to achieve this?
Design and the Arts	Look at the painting 'Viva la Vida, Watermelons' by Frida Kahlo. See how carefully you can copy this painting using any colour medium you would like – paints, felt tip pens, crayons, pastels. See if you can find some fruit in your home and create a close observation drawing of it.	Can you find the names of any other Mexican artists? Are their paintings similar to Frida Kahlo's?	Why do you think Mexican artists used such bright vivid colours and lots of themes based around nature?	Is there a particular painting or style that you really like? Talk to a member of your family about your reasons for this.

Religion and Values	Using information books or the internet to find some facts about some of the Mayan gods and goddesses. Why were they important to the Ancient Mayan Civilisation?	Create your own god using for example either Lego, colouring pens or plasticine looking carefully at the art work that the Mayans left behind.	Can you explain what common themes you have spotted in the designs?	Talk to your family and friends about the god you created and why it is important to you.
Sport Exercise and Health	Create a ball game. Your game could be based on ball games that we play during our PE	Think of the different ways a ball can travel from one person to another. For example, a throw	Design a diagram with captions to explain your ball game.	Play your ball game! How can it be improved? Tell Dr Charles and Mr Goodyer about your ball

	lessons such as basketball, netball, benchball, dodgeball and football. Make up your own rules. Remember to include a lot of running as it is important that your game will keep us fit!	(chest pass, over arm pass), a bounce, a kick, a dribble etc...		game. They might let you try it out and play it in your PE lesson!