



Year 4 and 5

The Ancient Maya **Task II**

Home Learning Activities :



Set: May 15th – May 29th

Each of the ancient Maya cities was ruled by a different king or queen. The Mayas believed these rulers had the task of keeping the gods happy. To achieve this, the rulers offered sacrifices (sometimes human!), conducted mass prayers and held parades through their cities. One of the most famous Maya rulers was Kinich Janaab Pakal, whom we know today as **Pakal the Great**. He was king of Palenque for 68 years, longer than any other ruler in the Ancient Maya world! [Read the incredible, illustrated and interactive tale of Pakal the Great on BBC Bitesize \(use the QR code\)](#) and use your incredible creativity and imagination to explore the following:



What is the legend of Pakal the Great?



After reading his amazing story, make a chronological list of the main events to create a plan. Now, use your plan to create a story of Pakal the Great. How will the story look? You could:

- Write a recount of the story in paragraphs with clear beginning, middle and end. You could use your plan to help write about the events in order. You could write this in the 'third-person', as if you were a narrator telling a story (e.g. *Pakal* was a great leader, *he* was respected by all).
- Create a comic strip of the events with narration written under each box – and include dialogue and thought-bubbles above characters that you draw (or digitally if you wish).
- Use a mobile phone or device to record yourself (audio or video!) telling the story using your plan – feel free to be dramatic, use different voices and bring different emotions into your voice!
- Create your own 'old scroll' and write a first-person account of Pakal in the form of an ancient diary entry (e.g. *I am Pakal the Great*). This could be about one particular event in his life.
- Write a song or poem telling the story, in verses.

Why was 'Jade' important to the ancient Maya?



Pakal's body was covered in jewellery made of a precious stone called 'jade'. This symbolised eternal life for the ancient Mayas. Create a report about this precious stone. You could:

- Make a list of facts about jade and tell us why it was important to the ancient Maya.
- Draw and colour a poster showing facts and the history of jade – including why ancient Maya used it in particular.
- Create a presentation (for example Book Creator on Apple devices or PowerPoint on Windows) with information and supporting imagery/maps.



Enjoy your home-learning tasks and remember to be as creative as you can. If you have an even better idea than ours, go for it!
We are so proud of you all and miss you very much. 😊

Mr. Singh | Ms. Jennings | Mrs. Imam |
Mrs. Sarginson | Mrs. Taylor | Mrs. Hunter-Meadows