



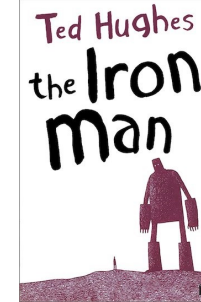
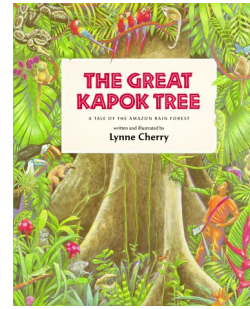
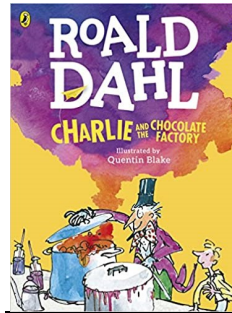
Year: 4
Spring 2

Chocolate and Inventions

The Maya civilisation began long ago in a place called 'Mesoamerica'. This huge area is made up of Mexico and part of Central America. The Maya built amazing cities like Tikal (which they called 'Yax Mutal') and Palenque. Even though they lived in different cities, ruled by different Kings and Queens, the Mayas shared a lot of common beliefs and traditions. They were experts at reading the stars and even built their cities as a map of the sky! Mayan culture was well established by 1100BC, and it lasted until 1542AD (that's 2642 years!) All Maya shared a common culture and religion, but each city governed itself and had its own noble ruler. One of the many crops that the Maya farmed was the fragrant cacao bean. These beans grew on trees from the soils of El Salvador, Guatemala and Belize. They were a precious crop; prized for their chocolatey flavour and used in drinks for the rich and noble. Unsweetened cacao is deeply bitter and the Maya would spice it up with some chillies; a drink still enjoyed today! The cacao bean was so valuable to the Maya civilisation; it was even used as currency.

Key Vocabulary

Solid	Firm and stable in shape; not liquid or fluid.
Liquid	A substance that flows freely but is of constant volume, having a consistency like that of water or oil.
Gas	A substance or matter in a state in which it will expand freely to fill the whole of a container, having no fixed shape (unlike a solid) and no fixed volume (unlike a liquid).
Temperature	Intensity of heat present in a substance or object
Primary Source	First hand information from people, laws and texts
Secondary Source	Someone who created information after the event and was not directly involved.
Maya Civilization	A Mesoamerican civilization developed by the Maya people
Cacao	Seeds from a small tropical American evergreen tree, from which cocoa, cocoa butter, and chocolate are made
Origin	The point or place where something begins, arises, or is derived
Fair Trade	Trade between companies in developed countries and producers in developing countries in which fair prices are paid to the producers
Evaporation	The process of turning from liquid into vapour
Condensation	Water which collects as droplets on a cold surface when humid air is in contact with it



Objectives

- Understand the difference between Primary and Secondary sources of information.
- Ask questions of source materials to find answers about the past.
- Identify some ideas, beliefs and attitudes of past cultures.
- Describe similarities and differences between people, events and artefacts studied.
- Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases
- Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C)
- Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Timeline

