

# Gunthorpe Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

<b>Topic Focus:</b>	Chocolate	<b>Year 3:</b>	Autumn Term 1
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## Aztecs Key Knowledge

### Interesting Facts

The role of cacao beans	The Aztecs were the first people to discover chocolate! They used the beans to make hot or cold drinks. They were also used as a currency.
How did they build their empire?	They became fierce warriors and made alliances with other people. This strengthened their political power and, through conquering other areas, they expanded the empire.
Gods	The Aztecs believed in many gods. One of the most important was Tlaloc - the rain god.
Art	Art was really important for the Aztecs too. They made intricate masks, pottery and jewellery.

### Daily Life

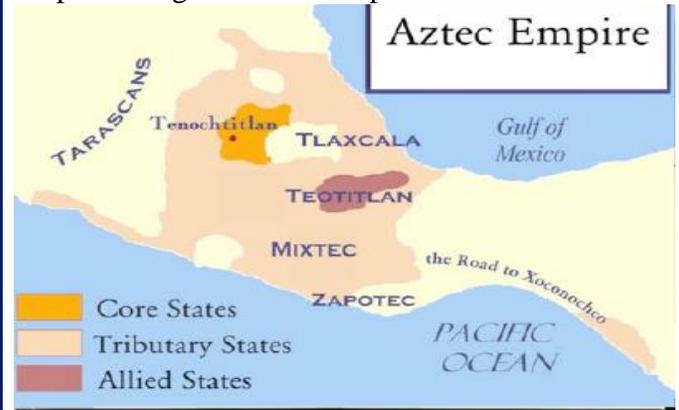
The rich	The rich nobles of Aztec society lived in luxury. Most of them had slaves to do most of their work for them. They lived in homes that were built in brick and sometimes stone. Sometimes the houses had a whitewash to make them sparkle. They had separate sections with steam rooms.
The poor	Life was very different for the poor. Most of them worked as farmers and fishermen. They did not have slaves, and lived in small huts with thatched roofs. They would have little furniture, although they did blankets and pots for cooking. Many wove mats to decorate their floors
Food	The Aztecs did not have any sheep, goats, or cows, however they did hunt ducks, turkeys and birds. Their food was very spicy, as they grew chilli and put it into almost everything. They ate beans with almost every meal. They also skimmed algae off lakes in order to make a sort of cheese bread.
Clothing	Noble Aztecs wore beautiful clothes that were made of cotton. Their clothes had bright dye to make an array of colours. These clothes were decorated with feathers and elaborate embroidery. The poor and slaves tended to wear simple clothes, such as loin cloths.

## Key Vocabulary

Spelling	Definition
Chocolate	A paste or solid block made from cacao seeds.
Harvest	The process of gathering in crops.
Bitter	A taste that is not sweet.
Delicious	Pleasant to the taste.
Beans	An edible seed.
Factory	A building where goods are manufactured.
Aztecs	Native American people who ruled Mexico and neighbouring areas from 1100 – 1522.
Empire	Countries ruled by one person or a group.
Temple	A building to worship a god or gods.
Equator	A line to divide the northern and southern hemispheres.
Conching	Chocolate is refined by warming and grinding.
Cocoa butter	A fatty substance from cocoa beans.
Ferment	A process that helps beans develop their chocolate flavour.
Plantation	An area on which crops are grown.

## Diagrams

Map showing the Aztec Empire.



Showing production of cacao beans



### Timeline

1100 – Aztecs are a group of nomad warriors.	c. 1250 – The Aztecs arrive in the Valley of Mexico	1325 – The Aztecs form their own capital city, Tenochtitlan	1375 – Acamapichtli becomes the first powerful Aztec leader	1428 – The Aztec Empire is formed through an alliance with the Texocans and Tlacubans	1440 – Moctezuma I vastly expands the Aztec Empire.	1519 – Spanish conqueror Hernan Cortes arrives. He is treated well by the Aztecs.	1521 – Cortes forms an alliance with the Tlacaxa and defeats the Aztecs.	1522 – Tenochtitlan is rebuilt and named Mexico City
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