

MAYAN EMPIRE

CUBE CODE

did the Mayan Calendar end?
exists today
A. Dresden Codex
B. Paris Codex
C. Madrid Codex
D. All of the above

Who conquered the last Mayan city?
A. Cancun
B. Chichen Itza
C. Guadalajara
D. Acapulco

What areas did the Mayans occupy?
A. Belize
B. Guatemala
C. Yucatan Peninsula
D. All of the above

What was the job of a Mayan priest?
A. Create miracles
B. Predict the future
C. Avoid droughts
D. All of the above

the number of glyphs Mayan hieroglyphics had MINUS 791.

The FIRST number of the lock is the number of steps each side of El Castillo had MINUS 90.

The THIRD number of the lock is the year the settlement at Tikal was formed MINUS 592.

4	water	7	365
5	wind	8	491
6	cross-eyed	9	red-haired

The Mayans believed that a ____ baby had traits to flatten their babies' forehead was also a ____ deity to shape their calendar.

STATION 3:
Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. The code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

A 75
B 25
C 50
E 100
F 75
G 50
H 25

A. Some glyphs were a picture while others represented a sound.
B. The Maya were one of nine Mesoamerican civilizations.
C. The last surviving Mayan city was called Tikal.
D. The commoners lived in mud huts on their farms outside of the city.
E. The middle class consisted of warriors, craftsmen, and traders.

Castillo pyramid was built as a gift to the gods in Chichen Itza.
The Mayan Civilization began in 1200 BC.
The Mayans believed in an afterlife and a dark underworld.

STATION 2:
First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

A The Hero Twins in Mayan mythology were Hunahpu and Xbalanque.
B At the peak of the Mayan civilization, there were hundreds of Mayan cities.
C Although the Maya called themselves Aztec.
D The book of the Madrid Codex.
E The Mayan civilization.
F The Mayan civilization.

MAYAN EMPIRE
The Mayan Civilization began in 1800 BC. Although their civilizations were similar, the Maya came thousands of years before the Aztec. The term Maya came from the ancient Yucatan city of Mayapan. Some Mayans still live on the Yucatan Peninsula today.
The Mayans began to develop during the Mesoamerican civilization. The Mayans occupied areas in Belize, Guatemala, the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico and Honduras. The Maya were one of six Mesoamerican civilizations. They are known for art, architecture, hieroglyphic writing and astronomy. They believed the stars, sun and moon were gods. They noted their eclipses, solstices and equinoxes in their temples.
The Mayan civilization consisted of many different city-states.

4 DIGIT CODE →

THINK TANK

STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning skills to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an ODD numbered paragraph, leaving only EVEN numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, simply put a zero in the box.

STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

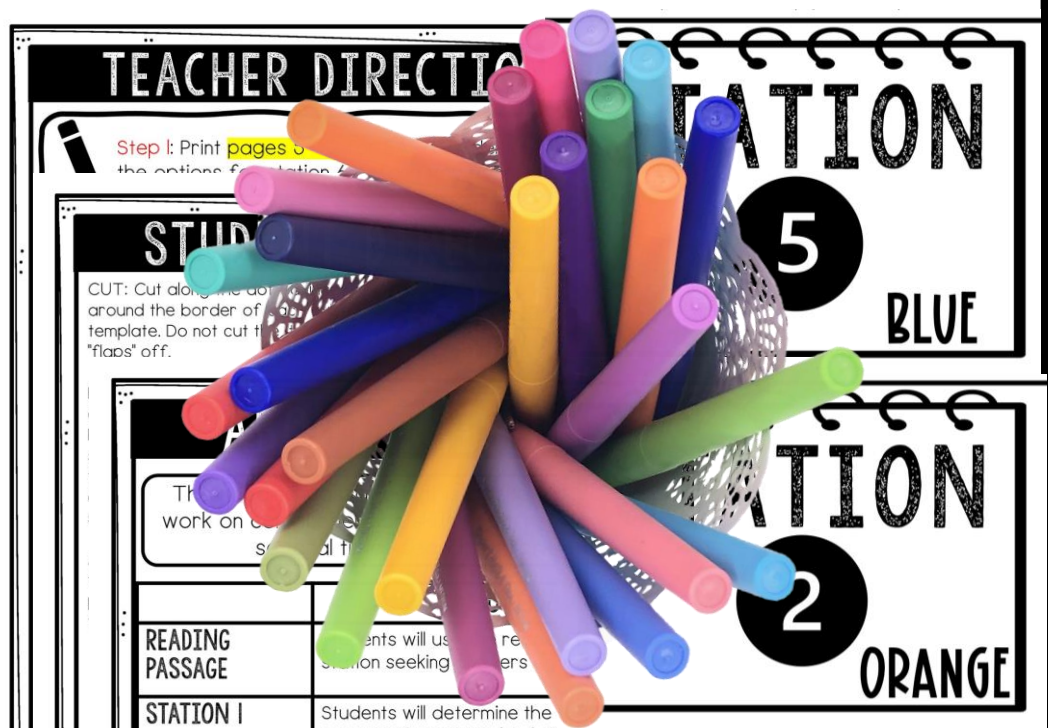
STATION

1

RED

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- READING PASSAGE
- 6 STATIONS
- TEACHER GUIDE
- STATION CARDS
- ANSWER KEY
- STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ALTERNATE STATION
- ASSEMBLY TIPS



6 STATIONS

STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. The missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

1	ears	4	water	7	365
2	nose	5	wind	8	491
3	fire	6	cross-eyed	9	red-haired

The Mayans believed that a _____ baby had traits of nobility. _____ babies' foreheads were also a feature _____ like _____.

The _____ Haab calendar had _____ days and _____ stars, moon _____ Some days were considered lucky or unlucky.

The Maya believed in numerous gods of nature.

STATION

1

RED

STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

MAIN IDEA

STATION

6



SUPPORTING DETAIL #2

STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

The LAST number of the lock is the number of Mayan languages still used today MINUS 68.

The SECOND number of the lock is

STATION

4

GREEN

4 DIGIT CODE

STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, put a zero in the box.

What year did the Mayan Long Count Calendar end?

- A. 1999
- B. 2012
- C. 2004
- D. 2020

Which Mayan codex book exists today?

- A. Dresden Codex
- B. Paris Codex

In 1696, what Mayan city was destroyed?

- A. Spanish
- B. French
- C. German
- D. None of the above

What was the job of a Mayan priest?

- A. Create miracles
- B. Predict the future
- C. Avoid droughts
- D. All of the above

- A. Belize
- B. Guatemala
- C. Yucatan Peninsula
- D. All of the above

STATION

5

BLUE

A B C D

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the statement. If the statement is false, do not color or shade the coin. One coin has been colored to show you how to do it. The first box is for the first box.

STATION

3

YELLOW

A
75

B
25

C
50

D
100

- C. The last surviving Mayan city was called Tikal.
- D. The commoners lived in mud huts on their farms outside of the city.
- E. The middle class consisted of warriors, craftsmen, and traders.
- F. The El Castillo pyramids were built as a gift to the gods in Yucatan.
- G. The Mayan Civilization began in 1000 AD.
- H. The Maya believed in a cycle of life and death, and travel through a dangerous underworld.

4 DIGIT CODE

STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final answer. The final answer is the Paragraph Number.

STATION

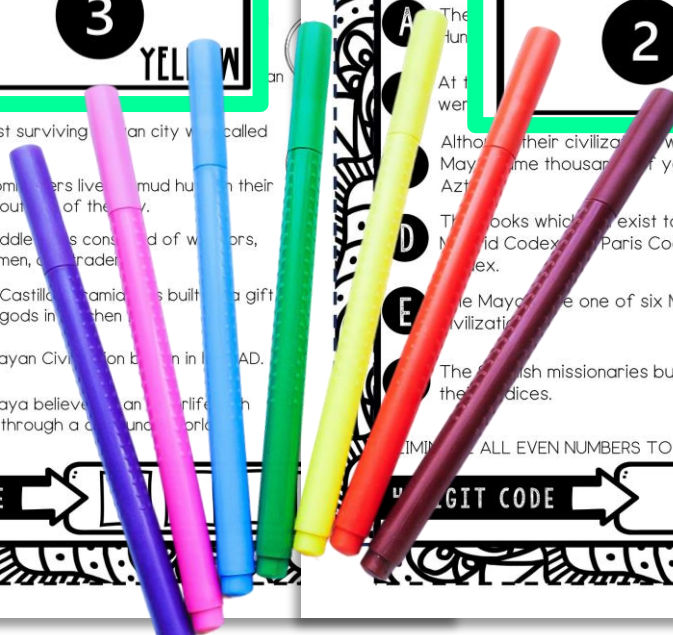
2

ORANGE

- A. The Mayan civilization was one of the most advanced in the world.
- B. At the height of their power, the Mayan civilization covered a vast area of Central America.
- C. Although their civilizations were similar, the Mayan and Aztec civilizations were separated by thousands of years before the Spanish arrived.
- D. The books which exist today are the Madrid Codex, the Paris Codex, and Dresden Codex.
- E. The Mayan civilization was one of six Mesoamerican civilizations.
- F. The Spanish missionaries burned all but four of the Mayan codices.

ELIMINATE ALL EVEN NUMBERS TO DETERMINE THE FINAL CODE.

4 DIGIT CODE



SAMPLE CUBE



STATIONS

STATION 1	Students will determine the missing words in the paragraph to reveal a 4 digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs and browse the passage to determine where the answers can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating EVEN numbers, a 4 digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false. They will then ADD all TRUE values to find the 4 digit code.
STATION 4	Students will do some basic math here, read the passage to find the answers and then determine the 4 digit code.
STATION 5	Students will answer 6 multiple choice questions which lead them to a 4 digit code based on the number of times they used each "answer".
STATION 6	Option 1: Main idea writing activity Option 2: Color and add topic
TEXT MARKING	OPTIONAL: A color code chart is included in case you want students to mark the text citing evidence of where they found their answers.

**STUDENTS WILL
USE THE SAME
READING
PASSAGE AT
EACH STATION
SEEKING
ANSWERS AND
TEXT EVIDENCE.**

HOW IT WORKS



ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1

Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit 6 stations, grabbing one side of their cube at each station.

2

Students will answer the questions (found directly in the passage) on their cube sheet before assembly. Students will revisit their reading passage at EACH station!

3

Students will reveal 4-digit codes to move on to the next station. When they finish all stations, they can color and assemble their cube.

STATION

Read each statement below and determine if the statement is true, color or shade the corresponding box. If the statement is false, cross out the box. When all stations are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE statements. A 4-digit code has been provided for you. If the code is 1234, the 1 in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

A 75

A. Some glyphs were a picture that represented a sound.

B 25

B. The Maya were one of nine Mesoamerican civilizations.

C 50

C. The last surviving Mayan city was Tikal.

D 100

D. The commoners lived in mud huts and worked the farms outside of the city.

E 50

E. The middle class consisted of warriors, craftsmen, and traders.

F 50

F. The El Castillo pyramid was built to honor the gods in Chichen Itza.

G 50

G. The Mayan Civilization began in 1200 BC.

H 50

H. The Maya believed in an afterlife and that the dead would travel through a dark underworld.

4 DIGIT CODE → [] [] [] []

COMBINATION



Each Cube Code is a winning combination of:


- stations and movement
- close reading
- comprehension skills
- coloring and stress relief
- secret codes
- cut and paste
- citing evidence
- critical thinking

Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!

BENEFITS



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  UNIT REVIEW
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  HANDS-ON
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING

