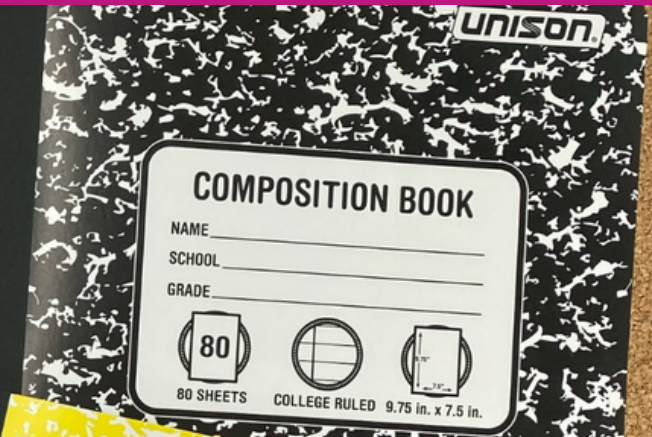


ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS: AZTECS



LINKtivity
Interactive Learning Guides

WAIT!

Thank you for considering this LINKtivity for your classroom, but before you make a decision - you should know that you can get **access to this LINKtivity + PLUS our entire library** for about the same price as a single LINKtivity!

The results are in: **Teachers LOVE LINKtivities...** and want more! So, we've made it SUPER easy and cost effective for you to access any and ALL of our LINKtivities inside our LINKtivity Learning membership option! Instead of purchasing just ONE LINKtivity - why not get access to ALL of them... for about the SAME PRICE!



INSIDE THE MEMBERSHIP YOU'LL HAVE UNLIMITED ACCESS TO:

- ✓ The **entire growing LINKtivity® library** inside the Membership (LINKtivities for all content areas)
- ✓ ALL **future LINKtivities** to be added to the membership (new releases each month!)
- ✓ **Teacher guides** to help you set up each LINKtivity® successfully in your classroom
- ✓ **Student resources** that go along with each LINKtivity (printable OR digital)
- ✓ **Kid-friendly rubrics** and **answer keys** for each LINKtivity®

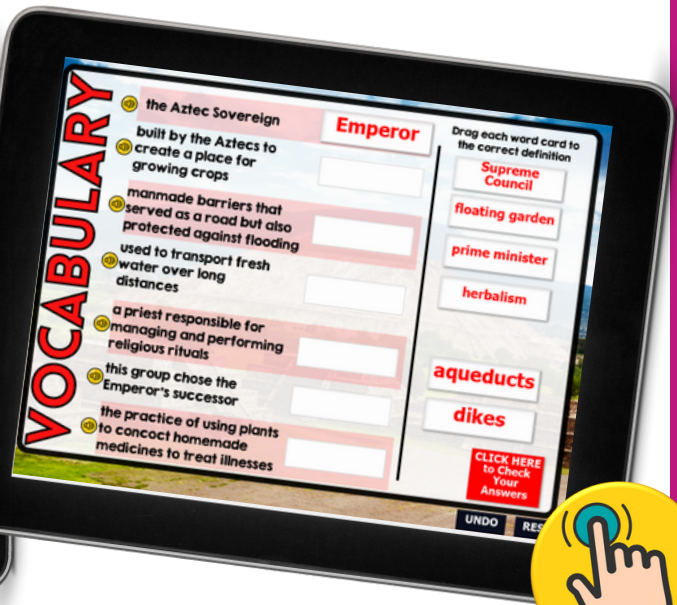


JOIN NOW





Inside the Ancient Aztecs LINKtivity® students will learn about the ancient Aztecs civilizations including the impact of its geographic location, religious beliefs, major achievements, political structure, economic system, and social structure. They will also have the opportunity to view related videos before completing the knowledge self-check.



More Sample Slides

GEOGRAPHY

The Aztecs were a Mesoamerican culture of Native People that inhabited the highlands of what is now Mexico. The Aztecs began as **nomadic**, or wandering, civilization. However, this all changed when the Aztecs settled near modern-day Mexico City and founded the legendary city of Tenochtitlan. The Aztecs were very clever. They actually created **artificial islands** by draining swamps. They cultivated the lands and formed a system for irrigating crops. They planted crops such as corn, beans, squash, and avocados. These efforts made it possible for them to create successful civilization.

CLICK HERE to travel virtually to Mexico on Google Earth.

NEW KNOWLEDGE

People have long been fascinated by the life and culture of the ancient Aztec civilization. They made many contributions to the modern world in the areas of medicine, farming, engineering, and even poetry. **Click on each number** below to learn about some of the knowledge achievements of the ancient Aztecs.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

Nahuatl was the language of the Aztec Empire. It has been spoken by people in central Mexico for centuries.

POLITICS

The Aztec government was led by an Emperor. The Emperor had unlimited powers and complete control of the Aztecs. **Click each card** to reveal facts about Aztec politics.

The Aztecs believed the Emperor was divinely appointed by the gods to rule the people. For this reason, they called their Emperor the Huey Tlatoani, which means "Guest Speaker" for the gods.

CLICK HERE to learn more about the different political periods of the ancient Aztecs.

ARTIFICIAL ISLANDS

The Aztecs built their capital city of Tenochtitlan on an island in the midst of Lake Texcoco. This provided a way to protect their settlement from outsiders. The Aztecs were extremely resourceful. They built up artificial islands called **chinampa** to create a place for growing crops. Therefore, these spaces were often referred to as floating gardens. The Aztecs used movable bridges to transport supplies and even created **aqueducts** to transport fresh water over long distances. They created raised roads to get from the islands to the mainland. These roads served as **dikes**, or manmade barriers, to help prevent flooding.

CLICK HERE to learn more about the floating gardens of the Aztecs.

THE AZTECS BUILT A LARGE EMPIRE IN WHAT IS NOW CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN MEXICO. FOLLOW THE TIMELINE TO SEE THEIR GROWTH.

- AZTECS SETTLE** AD 1200: Aztecs move into central Mexico.
- THE FIRST AZTEC KING** AD 1325: Roughly 50 years after establishing the city of Tenochtitlan, the Aztecs chose their first king. His name was Acamopichitl.
- TENOCHTITLAN** AD 1325: The Aztecs founded the city of Tenochtitlan.
- FORMING ALLIANCES** AD 1400's: In effort to grow stronger, the Aztecs formed an alliance, or partnership, with 2 nearby states to fight off their longtime enemies: the Azcapotzalco. Together with their alliances, they defeated the Azcapotzalco and the Aztec empire grew.
- KING AHUITZOTL** AD 1486-1502: Ahuitzotl, the 8th king, grew the Aztec Empire to its largest size. He became known as "they tlatoani," or "supreme king".
- KING MONTEZUMA** AD 1502-1520: Montezuma II was the last Aztec King. He enjoyed wealth and power until he was taken as prisoner by Spanish. The Aztec people lost respect for Montezuma and threw stones at him, and he died a few days later in 1520.
- END OF THE AZTEC EMPIRE** AD 1521: After Montezuma's death, his brother Cuauhtemoc drove the Spanish out of the city Tenochtitlan. However, the Spanish returned and defeated the Aztecs, ending their empire.

TEMPLO MAYOR

Templo Mayor was constructed as part of the Aztec capital city of Tenochtitlan. The site is now part of present-day Mexico City. Templo Mayor was one of the most important temples of the ancient Aztec empire and was dedicated to two major **deities**, or gods: Huitzilopochtli (the god of war) and Tlaloc (the god of rain and agriculture). The Great Temple was impressive site that rose nearly 90 feet above the city. It had two stairways which led to the top of the pyramid where Huitzilopochtli and Tlaloc were honored with special shrines. Tenochtitlan was captured and the Great Temple was destroyed by the Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes when he overtook the Aztec Empire.

CLICK HERE find out what happened to the Aztecs.

The Aztecs Explained in 14 Minutes

More videos:

- THE INCA EMPIRE EXPLAINED IN 14 MINUTES
- HISTORY OF THE PHOENICIANS
- THE MAYA CIVILIZATION EXPLAINED IN 14 MINUTES
- THE MIDDLE AGES EXPLAINED IN 14 MINUTES

Source: Captivati

SNAPSHOTS

Aztec Hieroglyphs

Use the **left arrow** button on the camera to scroll through the photos.

VOCABULARY

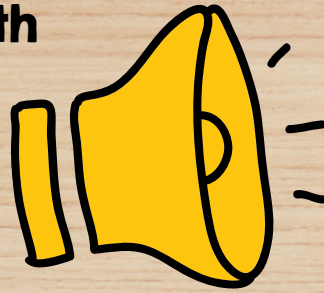
Drag each word card to the correct definition.

the Aztec Sovereign	Emperor	Supreme Council
built by the Aztecs to create a place for growing crops		floating garden
manmade barriers that served as a road but also protected against flooding		prime minister
used to transport fresh water over long distances		herbalism
a priest responsible for managing and performing religious rituals		aqueducts
this group chose the Emperor's successor		dikes
the practice of using plants to concoct homemade medicines to treat illnesses		



This LINKtivity is provided with

AUDIO SUPPORT



Perfect for English language learners or students who could use a little extra support!

The tablet screen displays the following content:

SOCIAL STRUCTURE

The social scale of the Aztecs can be used to understand the organization and structure of this ancient empire. Historians believe the Aztec's social structure was complex and consisted of several levels.

Click on each class to learn more about the social structure of the Ancient Aztecs.

- 1 Noble: Government, military & religious leaders
- 2 Lords: Nobles, judges & military officers
- 3 Commoners: Farmers, crafts people, merchants & low-level jobs
- 4 Serfs: Farmers on others' land
- 5 Slaves

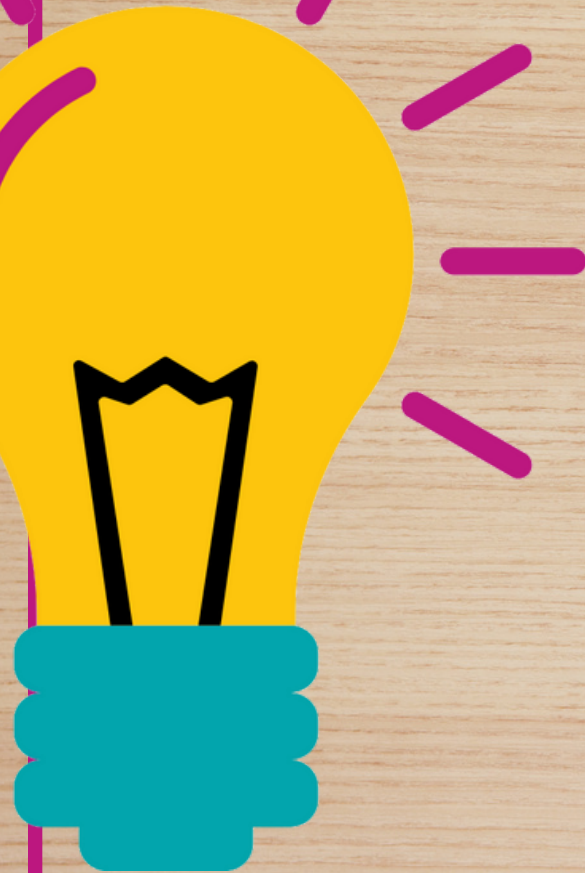
Sovereign
Nobles
Commoners
Serfs & Enslaved People

Click the video to learn about the Ancient Aztecs.

Audio icons: Sound On, speaker, hand cursor.



KNOWLEDGE CHECK



Students complete a quick self-check at the end of the LINKtivity to show what they have learned!

VOCABULARY

the Aztec Sovereign **Emperor**

built by the Aztecs to create a place for growing crops

manmade barriers that served as a road but also protected against flooding

used to transport fresh water over long distances

a priest responsible for managing and performing religious rituals

this group chose the Emperor's successor

the practice of using plants to concoct homemade medicines to treat illnesses

Drag each word card to the correct definition

Supreme Council

floating garden

prime minister

herbalism

aqueducts

dikes

CLICK HERE to Check Your Answers

UNDO



Printable & Digital Student Flipbook

Printable Flipbook for LINKtivity

GEOGRAPHY

Color and label the map below.

The Aztecs settled near modern-day _____ and founded the legendary city of _____.

Draw a star on the world map where the Aztec Empire was located.

POLITICS

Describe the most notable facts about each major political era.

AZTEC SETTLE
Date: _____

TENOCHTITLAN
Date: _____

FORMING ALLIANCES
Date: _____

END OF THE AZTEC EMPIRE
Date: _____

AZTEC KINGS
ACAMAPICHTLI
AHUITZOTL
MONTEZUMA II

RELIGION

Write facts about Aztec beliefs in each category below:

GODS & GODDESSES

HUMAN SACRIFICE

TEMPLO MAYOR (GREAT TEMPLE)

ACHIEVEMENTS

Describe the many achievements of the Aztecs in each box.

FLOATING GARDENS

HERBALISM

CHOCOLATE

NEW KNOWLEDGE

ECONOMY

Describe how chinampas (floating gardens) helped the Aztecs.

What types of foods were grown for eating and trading?

SOCIAL STRUCTURE

THE AZTEC PEOPLE

Record the personal details of each level of Aztec society on the triangle. Then describe their daily life on the left side of the triangle.

AZTEC BELIEFS
Write facts about Aztec beliefs in each category below:

RELIGION

GODS & GODDESSES

HUMAN SACRIFICE

TEMPLO MAYOR (GREAT TEMPLE)

Navigation: GEOGRAPHY, RELIGION, ACHIEVEMENTS, POLITICS, ECONOMICS, SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Digital Flipbook for LINKtivity in Google Slides

Student Flipbook Rubric

	4 - Excellent	3 - Good	2 - Satisfactory	1 - Needs Improvement
Neatness & Appearance	My Flipbook is very neat and easy to read. I neatly colored in any illustrations with great detail. It is clear that I took my time to make my Flipbook reflect my learning.	My Flipbook is mostly neat and my writing is easy to read. I neatly colored in any illustrations.	My Flipbook is somewhat neat. Some of my writing is hard to read. I colored in any illustrations.	My Flipbook is quite sloppy. My writing is hard to read. Illustrations are NOT colored, or are sloppily done.
Accuracy & Completeness	The information in my Flipbook is 100% correct. I've included many details from the LINKtivity and have put what I've learned clearly in my own words. I have included information that goes above and beyond.	The information in my Flipbook is mostly correct. I've included several details from the LINKtivity, written neatly in my own words. My Flipbook includes all of the required information.	My Flipbook contains several incorrect or missing pieces of information. The information in my Flipbook lacks details from the LINKtivity.	My Flipbook has many incorrect or missing pieces of information. I struggled to use the information from the LINKtivity to complete my Flipbook correctly.
			My Flipbook contains many errors in spelling and grammar.	My Flipbook contains many errors in spelling and grammar.

THE AZTEC PEOPLE SOCIAL STRUCTURE

The Sovereign was in charge of the government, the economy, the military, and the law. They lived in large palaces.

Nobles were very powerful and included leaders in the government, military, and religion. Nobles were leaders of the city-states for throughout the Aztec empire.

This group included traders and farmers. Farmers created the chinampas. Traders were very important members of society. They were the wealthiest group among the commoners.

Subdued people and serfs lived the hardest life in the Aztec civilization. Serfs worked on land that others owned. People became enslaved as a punishment for crimes.

Sovereign

Nobles

Commoners

Serfs and Enslaved People

SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Answer Key & Rubric



GEOGRAPHY

The Aztecs were a Mesoamerican culture of Native Peoples who established the highlands of what is now Mexico. The Aztecs began as a nomadic, or wandering, civilization. However, this all changed when the Aztecs settled near modern-day Mexico City and founded the legendary city of Tenochtitlan. The Aztecs were very clever. They actually created artificial islands by draining swamps. They cultivated the crops on these islands by creating a system for irrigation. They planted crops such as corn, beans, squash, and avocados. These efforts made it possible for them to create a successful civilization.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Describe the many achievements of the Aztecs in each box.

FLOATING GARDENS

HERBALISM

CHOCOLATE

NEW KNOWLEDGE

SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Record the personal details of each level of Aztec society on the triangle. Then describe their daily life on the left side of the triangle.

Sovereign

Nobles

Commoners

Serfs and Enslaved People

SOCIAL STRUCTURE