

Journey to the Maya.

Travel by plane and bus. Visit cities in Central America.



Palenque
Tulum
Flores
Pachuca
Villahermosa
Chetumal
Veracruz
Merida

Groups become experts on both modern and ancient cities and report back to each other on what they have discovered!

Tourists,
Historians and
Archaeologists!

Journey to the Maya.

Thanks to the Year 4s at Fieecefield School at Angel, Edmonton who tested out this activity. This is a way of organising a virtual visit to the modern Central American cities that are sited near famous Maya sites. Groups of three or four visit eight different cities. They are given some information about the present Maya and the past. They can go on to find out more and then they have to present their findings to another group or to the whole class.

Linked to these other activities:

Meet the Maya
Maya Questions

Webaddress: www.collaborativelearning.org/journeytomaya.pdf
Last updated 14th October 2016

Our collaborative talk for learning activities are designed to:

...build on prior knowledge.

...move from concrete to abstract thinking.

...ensure everyone works with everyone else.

...extend social language into curriculum language.

...provide motivating ways to go over the same topic more than once.

For more details go to: www.collaborativelearning.org

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

We support a network of teaching professionals to develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

17, Barford Street, Islington, London N1 0QB UK Phone: 0044 (0)20 7226 8885

Website: <http://www.collaborativelearning.org>

BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies that promote talk across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to develop and use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We want to encourage you to change them and adapt them to your classroom and students. We run teacher workshops and conferences worldwide but mainly in the UK. The project posts online many activities in all subject areas. An online newsletter is also updated regularly.

*These activities are influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in non selective classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of speaking and listening. They provide teachers ideal opportunities for assessment of spoken language.

*They provide scaffolding for differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills. We strongly endorse the principles of the Learning Without Limits group to which we belong.

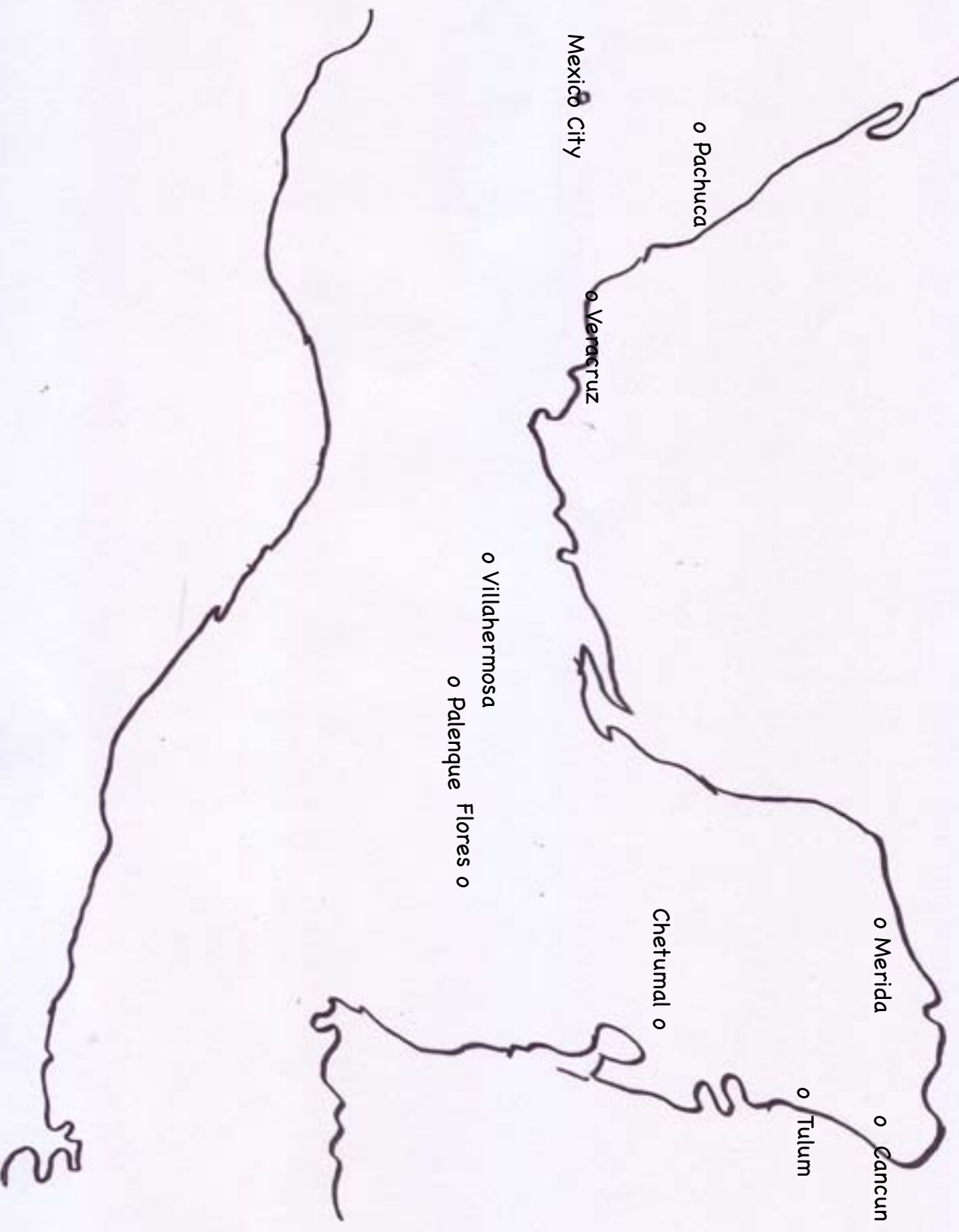
*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in pupils' first languages and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

*They are generally work effectively over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

Journey to the Maya.



Group One travel to Palenque

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2203 to Cancun. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Palenque.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Palenque.

PALENQUE



You can visit the ruins of the Maya city built around 600 CE. You can climb to the top but be careful! It has very steep steps.

PALENQUE



You can visit the ecopark and see lots of animals and birds. These are scarlet macaws. The rainforest is being cut down and the ecopark rescues animals.

PALENQUE



You can visit the Textile museum and see lots of beautiful handmade textiles. This is called Otomi fabric and is embroidered by hand.

PALENQUE



You can visit several famous and beautiful waterfalls. You can find a cave behind the waterfall. You can swim in the lake.

Group Two travel to Tulum

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2203 to Cancun. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Tulum.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Tulum.

TULUM



You can go swimming in a cenote or sinkhole. You go down steps for fifty metres to reach the water. It is very cool and shady down there when it is hot and humid at ground level.

TULUM



You can visit the Maya ruined city of Tulum. It is right beside the sea. So you can sit on the beach and go swimming.

TULUM



You can go snorkelling in caves. You can see beautiful stalactites and other exciting rock formations. It is a cool thing to do when the weather is hot.

TULUM



You can go visit the ruins of Coba. Fifty thousand people once lived here in 600 CE. You can see the remains of straight roads that led to other cities.

Group Three travel to Flores

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2203 to Guatemala City. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Flores.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Flores.

FLORES



You can visit the Maya ruins of Tikal. The city was biggest in 600CE. You can see beautiful wood and stone carvings There are no rivers and water was collected in ten large reservoirs.

FLORES



You can travel on a zipwire above the animals in Ixpanpajul Nature Park.

FLORES



You can visit the old town on the island in the lake. The houses are colourful and beautiful and there are markets and shops.

FLORES



You can visit the Cathedral in the middle of the island. The Itza tribe of Maya held their city (called Nojpeten) until 1697 and it was the last place in America to become a colony.

Group Four travel to Pachuca

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2134 to Mexico City. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Pachuca in Hidalgo state.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Pachuca.

PACHUCA



You can visit the Rehilete Museum and see full size models of dinosaurs. An asteroid hit Mexico 60 million years ago and may have killed all the dinosaurs in the whole world.

PACHUCA



You can visit these silos in Alcatlan. They are used for storing grain and corn.

PACHUCA



You can visit the Mining Museum. Miners came from England in the 1860s to work here and they brought pasty recipes which are still made here.



PACHUCA



You can visit the pyramid of the Toltecs in Tula. This is a city that was active from 900-1200 CE. You can see big statues four metres high.

Group Five travel to Veracruz

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2134 to Mexico City. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Veracruz.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Veracruz.

VERACRUZ



You can visit the Totonac flyers dance in Papantla. Five men climb to the top of a pole and then four fly down dancing on ropes and one stays at the top dancing and playing music.

VERACRUZ



You can visit the beach and enjoy swimming and resting and eating tasty food.

VERACRUZ



You can visit San Juan de Ulúa fortress. The town was the first port for Spanish ships. Sir Francis Drake lost a battle here in 1569 and had to escape in a small boat.

VERACRUZ



You can go snorkeling and swim around coral reefs. You can also go fishing along the Emerald Coast.

Group Six travel to Merida

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2203 to Cancun. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Merida.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Merida.

MERIDA



You can visit the Maya city of Uxmal. "Uxmal" means three times built. The city was first built about 500CE and no more building took place after 1200CE.

MERIDA



You can visit the Temple of the Seven Dolls at Dzibilchaltún and also swim in the cenote (sinkhole).

MERIDA



Every day at 8pm in front of the cathedral you can see a modern version of the Maya ball game. You are not allowed to touch the ball with your hands.

MERIDA



On Sunday all cars are banned in the city and you can ride your bicycle everywhere.

Group Seven

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2203 to Cancun. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Chetumal.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Chetumal.

CHETUMAL



You can visit the Maya city of Calakmul. It was the capital of the Snake kingdom and fifty thousand people lived here.

CHETUMAL



You can go cave diving in a cenote. The fish will nibble you gently. A cenote is a sinkhole where the acid water has made caves.

CHETUMAL



You can visit the Maya museum. It is full of sculptures and paintings and objects found in the ruined cities.

CHETUMAL



You can stay in a hotel in the rainforest and a guide will show you lots of wild animals and birds. You can go on a kayak through lakes and swamps.

Group Eight travel to Villahermosa

You are going on a journey to Central America the country of the Maya, the Toltecs, the Zapotecs, the Mistecs, the Aztecs and the Olmecs. The modern countries are Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Belize.



You leave Heathrow Airport at midday on British Airways flight BA2203 to Cancun. You arrive at 17.30. Your journey takes eight and a half hours and you travel 5000 miles. Next day you take a bus to Villahermosa.



Look at your information cards and find out what you can do in Villahermosa.

VILLAHERMOSA



You can visit this museum. The building is completely covered in Spanish tiles inside and out. It contains information on the history of Tabasco.

VILLAHERMOSA



The Olmecs carved enormous stone heads in 1150BCE. You can see them in the Venta park. You can also see lots of exotic colourful birds.

VILLAHERMOSA



You can go to the Yumka Nature Park. Here you travel on an open bus and visit different environments. You can see animals from all over the world.

VILLAHERMOSA



You can visit a cocoa plantation and see how chocolate is made from cocoa pods