



Welcome to Mexico. Get ready to explore this unique country, from its towering temples and stunning geography to its pulsing rhythms and fun festivals. Is your tummy rumbling? Concoct a traditional fruit cocktail or a delicious Mexican meal. What's on your shopping list? Go steady with the spices. Discover the mysterious world of the ancient Mayan civilisation. Make their chocolate, learn their poetry, play their ball game and follow all of their curious rituals. Just try to keep your head. Feel like celebrating? Design a flute, grab a drum, join a tribe and make some noise. Have you got what it takes to be chief? Let's find out.

## Help your child prepare for their topic!

Mexico is a fascinating land full of music and celebration. Why not work together and use non-fiction books or online research to find out about the impressive landmarks of Mexico? You could also look at holiday brochures or websites to plan an imaginary trip to Mexico. Alternatively, you could sample Mexican food in a restaurant or at home.

## This is Mexico!

Mexico is located in the south of the continent of North America. It has a diverse landscape that includes mountains, rainforests and deserts. This means that its climate is also very varied and there are a wide range of plants and animals found there, including many types of cacti and over 700 species of reptile. Some people live in rural communities and others live in large cities. Mexico City is the capital of Mexico. It is home to nearly nine million people, with a vibrant, diverse population and a rich cultural heritage.



## Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

This festival takes place during the first two days of November. It is a positive celebration to remember loved ones who have died. Families set up brightly decorated altars with photographs of the deceased. Relatives place their loved ones' favourite foods on the altars and skeleton costumes and skull decorations are popular.



## Did you know!

There are 50 species of hummingbird in Mexico.

## Maya

The Maya were a group of indigenous people who lived in Mexico and other parts of Central America over 3000 years ago. The Maya were experts in farming, pottery, writing and maths. Around AD 900, the Maya civilization began to decline, and the people moved into small villages, rather than staying in the great cities that they had built. There are still some Maya people today who follow the lifestyle, language and traditions of the ancient Maya.



Writing	Formal writing: A formal letter of complaint and a formal police report will be produced whilst focusing on standard English, colons to separate clauses, relative clauses, synonyms and antonyms of language, passive voice and the subjunctive form.
Reading	Focusing first on the text 'Spirit of the Jungle', followed by comparing and contrasting two texts with a similar theme, 'War Horse' and 'Black Beauty'. With this, the focus will remain on vocabulary, retrieval and inference.
Maths	EM Set: Ratio, Algebra and Decimals
	AC / AP Sets: Decimals (including place value and rounding), Percentages of an amount and links to fractions and decimals.
History	The characteristics of the earliest civilisations include cities, governments, forms of writing, numerical systems, calendars, architecture, art, religion, inventions and social structures, many of which have influenced the world over the last 5000 years and can still be seen in society today.
Science	A shadow appears when an object blocks the passage of light. Apart from some distortion or fuzziness at the edges, shadows are the same shape as the object. The distortion or fuzziness depends on the position or type of light source.
	Questions can help us find out about the world and can be answered using a range of scientific enquiries, including fair tests, research and observation.
	The results are information, such as measurements or observations, that have been collected during an investigation. A conclusion is an explanation of what has been discovered, using correct, precise terminology and collected evidence.
Geography	The Northern Hemisphere is the part of Earth that is to the north of the equator. The Southern Hemisphere is the part of Earth that is to the south of the equator. The Prime Meridian is the imaginary line from the North Pole to the South Pole that passes through Greenwich in England and marks 0° longitude, from which all other longitudes are measured.
	Invisible lines of latitude run horizontally around the Earth and show the northerly or southerly position of a geographical area. Invisible lines of longitude run vertically from the North to the South Pole and show the westerly or easterly position of a geographical area.
	The distribution of and access to natural resources, cultural influences and economic activity are significant factors in community life in a settlement.
Art	A 3-D form is a sculpture made by carving, modelling, casting or constructing.
	Works of art can be significant for many reasons. For example, they are created by key artists of an artistic movement; have influenced other artists; have a new or unique concept or technique or have a famous or important subject.
DT	Ingredients can usually be bought at supermarkets, but specialist shops may stock different items. Greengrocers sell fruit and vegetables, butchers sell meat, fishmongers sell fresh fish and delicatessens usually sell some unusual prepared foods, as well as cold meats and cheeses.
	Eating a balanced diet is a positive lifestyle choice that should be sustained over time. Food that is high in fat, salt or sugar can still be eaten occasionally as part of a balanced diet.
	It is important to understand the characteristics of different materials to select the most appropriate material for a purpose. This might include flexibility, waterproofing, texture, colour, cost and availability.
PSHE	Living in the wider world: valuing diversity; challenging discrimination and stereotypes; Evaluating media sources; sharing things online; influences and attitudes to money, including financial risks.
MFL	Recap avoir and être conjugation; hair and eye descriptions; body parts including aches and pains; school subjects, timetables and French school system.
IT	Digital programmer: Programming

☞ Gymfit Circuits: developing a personal programme that is suitable for each child, using the knowledge and understanding.

