



Knowledge Organiser- Year 6

Incas – Autumn Term 2

Key vocabulary

Sapa Inca, artefact, quipus, Machu Picchu, earthquake, tremor, epicentre, aftershock, Andes, Cuzco, Quechua, seismograph, Richter scale, tunic, Pachacuti, South America, courier

History:

- Know that the Incan Empire stretched 2,500 miles through South America and the Andes Mountains.
- Know that the Incan Empire existed between the 1300s and the 1500s.
- Know that there was no written language and that messages were delivered by courier.
- Know that Quechua was the spoken language.
- Know that the Incas did not have wheels and that llamas were used to transport goods.
- Know that the Sapa Inca was the head of Incan society and to name Pachacuti.
- Know that an Incan town would have had a plaza, a home for girls, a palace, storage facilities and other features.
- Know that Incan crime rates were low because of the harsh punishments in place (being pushed off a cliff, tied to a pole and stoned or the removal of a limb) and that criminals were made to beg at the city gates and act as a deterrent for further crimes.
- Know that commoners wore tunics.
- Know that produce was counted and accounted for using a quipus – a series of colour coded knots in string.
- Know the name of at least one Incan God.
- Know that the Incas used a system of terrace farming.
- Know that the empire ended with the arrival of the Spanish Conquistadors in 1526.
- To know that most countries in South America now speak Spanish as a result of the invasion.
-



Geography:

- Know the name of at least 5 South American countries.
- Know that the geographical landscape of the Incan Empire included mountains, coasts and jungles.
- Know the modern (Lima) and ancient (Cuzco) capital of Peru.
- Know that earthquakes have an epicentre and occur as a result of the movement of tectonic plates.
- Know that earthquakes are measured using a seismograph and the Richter Scale.

| Vocabulary | Glossary |
|---------------|--|
| Aftershock | A smaller earthquake that follows a larger earthquake, in the same area of the main shock, |
| Andes | A 7000km long mountain range in South America with an average height of 4000m. |
| Artefact | An object shaped by humans, especially one of historical or archaeological interest. |
| Cuzco | The ancient capital of the Inca Empire. |
| Courier | Someone who delivered messages across the Inca Empire. |
| Earthquake | The shaking of the surface of the Earth resulting from a sudden release of energy. |
| Epicenter | The part of the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake. |
| Machu Picchu | Constructed as an estate for the Inca emperor <u>Pachacuti</u> . Built around 1450, but not discovered until 1911. |
| Pachacuti, | The ninth ruler of the Inca Empire. |
| Quechua, | One of the many languages spoken by the Incas and a language spoken today by people living in the Peruvian Andes. |
| Quipus | A series of knots used by the Incas to keep records and communicate information relating to numbers and amounts. |
| Richter Scale | A scale devised in 1935 to measure the strength of an earthquake. |
| Sapa Inca | The Emperor of the Inca Empire, believed at the time to have been a descendant from the god Inti. |
| seismograph | An instrument that measures and records details of earthquakes, such as force and duration. |
| South America | The world's 4 th largest continent, containing 12 countries. |
| Tremor | The shaking or trembling of the surface of the earth before an earthquake strikes. |
| Tunic | A single sheet folded over and stitched at the sides with holes left for the arms and neck. |