



# 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.
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### 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 <sup>th</sup> 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.