

Mesoamerica Maya, Inca and Aztecs

Unit Focus

Overarching Understanding: Before being conquered by the Europeans, the Mesoamerican Civilizations created unique and advanced cultures that have a current day influence in Hispanic culture today.

Overarching Essential Question: How does the Mesoamerican culture influence Hispanic culture today?

Unit Overview: In this unit students will examine the Mesoamerican cultures of the Aztecs, Mayans and Incas. The student will connect cultural qualities of the Mesoamericans with influences in their own lives. The unit will include traditional forms of assessment as well as student produced examples of cultural influences of the Mesoamerican in their own lives.

Topical Essential Questions:

- What were cultural distinctions of the Aztecs, Mayas and Inca civilizations?
- What were the cultural similarities of the Aztecs, Mayas and Inca civilizations?
- What were the architectural accomplishments of the Mesoamericans?
- What are specific cultural influences of the Mesoamericans on Hispanic culture?
- Was conquest by the Spaniards of the Americas exploration or exploitation?
- What was result of the Spaniards and Mesoamericans religious beliefs collision?