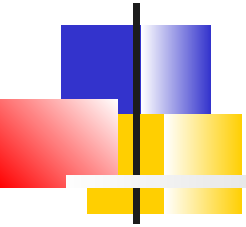


AMAZING AZTEC CYBERHUNT



■ CREATED BY
MRS.
ANTONIEWIC
Z

- The Aztecs were a wandering tribe until their leader, Tenoch, had a strange vision and led them to _____. There they founded a great city, called _____, in 1325.

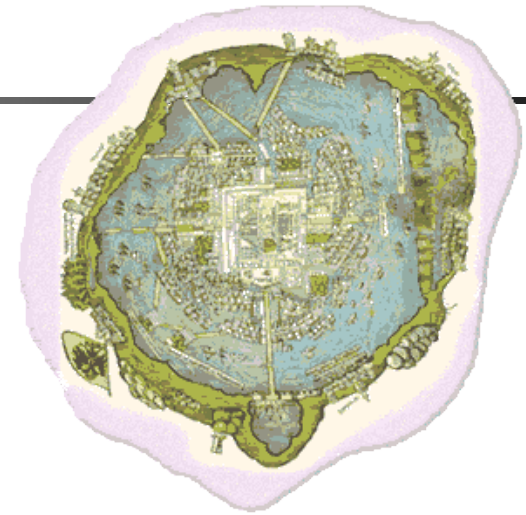
<http://home.freeuk.net/ellougjton13/history1.htm>.



- Around 700 years ago the Aztec peoples for some reason or other left their homes in Atzlan ... somewhere in North West Mexico. They came to the Valley of Mexico named Anahuac, led by their chieftain Tenoch. They were a poor, ragged people who ate rats, snakes, and stole food.
- They were just too wild and nasty. So they were driven from one place to another.
- Then Tenoch had a vision. He was told to look for an eagle perched on a cactus, growing from a rock or cave surrounded by water. They were to build their city there. The city they built was called Tenochtitlán, the city of Tenoch in around 1325.

- The city's design was very advanced. It even had irrigation for the farm areas, which were called chinampas. A chinampas is a _____.

www.elbalero.gob.mx/kids/history/html/conquista/aztecas/html

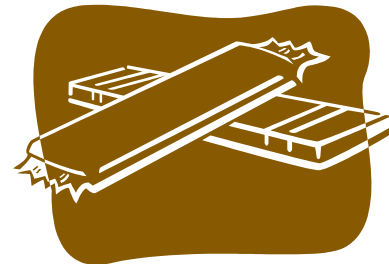
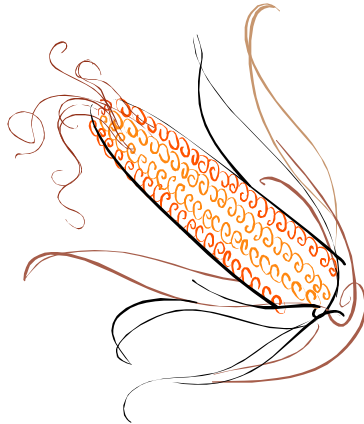


- Tenochtitlan was built on a series of islands situated in one of the shallow lakes, which at the time, covered a large part of the Valley of Mexico. Farmers took water from the canals to water their groves, and the cultivation of crops on **chinampas**. Although these floating platforms are always damp and produce excellent harvests, they need to be painstakingly cared for and cultivated.

- The Aztec farmed corn, potatoes, chili peppers, and squash using a digging stick and a wooden hoe. They also caught fish, turtles, and frogs. What else did they eat?

<http://library.thinkquest.org/27981/food/html>

- Maize, a type of corn, was the Aztec's main food source. The Aztecs also ate tomatoes, avocados, atole (a type of porridge), tortillas made from maize, and tamales, a kind of envelope made from steamed maize stuffed with vegetables or meat. Aztecs also ate chocolate. In their culture chocolate was reserved for warriors and nobility. A drink of cacao mixed with ground maize was believed to provide stamina and was used in sacred rituals. Chocolate was a drink for the elite.



- Aztec religion involved worshiping nature as gods, such as Coatlicue, goddess of Earth, Life, and Death. According to legend, the city made human sacrifices to them. Why? _____

www.differentworld.com/mexico/common/pages/history_notes/tenochtitlan.htm

- The Aztecs believed that it was necessary to feed the gods with human hearts in order to ensure that the sun would rise every day.



- The Aztecs' native spoken language was called N'ahuatl (pronounced na wat-l). They also had a system of writing. It was a system of _____ which they used as sort of an alphabet. Aztec picture writing was mainly done by _____ and _____ as they were the only ones who could read the pictures.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/27981/language.html>

- The Aztec language was called N'ahuatl. The Aztecs developed a system of pictures which they used as sort of an alphabet. They had hundreds of different symbols to use in their vocabulary. Nouns were easy to draw - they drew a cat as a cat and drew a fish as a fish and so on. They joined them together to form sentences, and used them to write down stories and keep records. Words that joined the nouns into sentences were extremely difficult to draw. The art of writing was very specialized and also difficult to learn. Scribes needed to know a lot of extra information that wasn't written down because the pictograms only gave a clue to the full meaning. Aztec picture writing was mainly done by priest or scribes. They were the only ones who could read the pictures.



- The Aztecs also had many forms of art. One of the most popular was limestone sculptures of religious figures. Name three other materials used in their art.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/16325/y-art.html>



Corn Goddess
Mexico; Aztec
15th-early 16th century
Basalt, pigment
Metropolitan
Museum of Art

- The favored form of artistic expression in the Aztec civilization was the making of sculpture. Most sculptures were made from limestone, which was and still is, abundant in central Mexico. Besides limestone, the Aztecs used other materials to make sculptures, especially basalt. Jade was used to make all sorts of masks. The design and making of clothing was another art form. Aztec women often made frivolous clothes for the upper class, and decorated them with such items as beads, flowers, and precious metals. Precious metals, especially gold, were found in abundance throughout the empire. In fact, gold was the major motivating factor for ***Hernan Cortez*** in his conquest of the Aztecs.

- The Aztecs measured time with a calendar of 365 days, usually carved into stone. Each year had _____ months, each having _____ days. Each of the days had special names and meanings. What were the names of the 5th and 16th days?

<http://library.thinkquest.org/27981/calendar.html>

- The Aztec year consisted of eighteen months, each having 20 days. Each month was given a specific name. This arrangement took care of 360 days (18x20), to which five dots were added (365 days). The five extra days were added at the end of the year, these days were thought to be bad-luck days when disasters were most likely to happen.

Twenty Days of the Aztec Month

1. Snake – Coatl
2. Lizard – Cuetzpallin
3. House – Calli
4. Wind – Ehecatl
5. Crocodile – Cipactli
6. Flower – Xochitl
7. Rain – Quiahuitl
8. Flint – Tecpatl
9. Movement – Ollin
10. Vulture – Cozcacuauhtli



11. Eagle - Cuauhtle
12. Jaguar - Ocelotl
13. Cane - Acatl
14. Herb - Malinalli
15. Monkey - Ozomatli
16. Hairless Dog - Itzquintli
17. Water - Atl
18. Rabbit - Tochtli
19. Deer - Mazatl
20. Skull - Miquiztli

- A Spaniard by the name of _____ landed on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico in 1519. The leader of the Aztecs was _____. The Aztec capital was finally destroyed on _____. The Aztec civilization was now at an end.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/27981/spconqu.html>

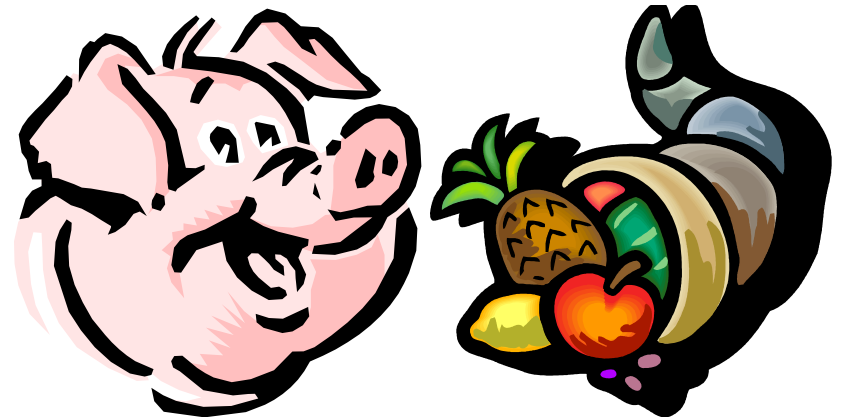
- Hernan Cortes landed on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico 1519.
- Aztec spies learned that these men were called Spaniards and the news was immediately taken to the leader of the Aztec, Moctezuma II. He decided to send gifts of gold to the Spanish leader Hernan Cortes.
- Cortes began to fight battles. Cortes took Moctezuma II hostage and tried to control the city of Tenochtitlan.
- Although many Spaniards were lost in battle, the Spaniards had won. The Aztec capital was finally destroyed on August 31, 1521.
- That's how the Aztec civilization ended.



- Thanks to the Spanish, the American continents now had _____, _____, _____, and _____. The Spanish also brought _____, _____, and _____. They brought back to Europe _____, _____, _____, and _____.

<http://library.thinkquest.org/27981/spconqu.html>

- The Spanish introduced horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs to the American continents. They brought sugar and other grains, and fruit. They took potatoes, tomatoes, beans and maize back to Europe.





Congratulations you have now
successfully completed the
Amazing Aztec CyberHunt.

