

# History

# WALT: I can find out about the everyday lives of people in Guatemala

- S2S
- I can
- recognise Mayan numbers from 0-19
- understand the difference between a logogram and a syllabogram
- create my own logogram

The **history of Guatemala** begins with the Maya civilization (2,000 BC – 250 AD), which was among those that flourished in their country. The country's modern **history** began with the Spanish conquest of **Guatemala** in 1524. ... When the Republic dissolved in 1841, **Guatemala** became fully independent.



Archaeologists believe that the earliest settlers to Guatemala crossed the Bering Strait from Asia 14,000 years ago and evidence of human settlements date to around 9000 B.C. People began to farm and form villages around 1000 B.C. and some of them became the Maya who dominated Guatemala history from A.D. 250 to 900.

The Maya civilization was very advanced in math and astronomy. The Maya probably developed the concept of zero and left written records using hieroglyphics and whole words.

# Number System










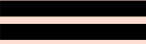
The numbers 1-19 are formed in a similar way to Roman Numerals.



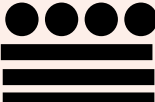


Different numbers are made by stacking the lines and lining up the circles on top.

5 circles = a new line.

# Numbers 1-19

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	

11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	

# Remember:

$$\bullet = 1$$

$$\text{—} = 5$$

Can you work out what these numbers would be?

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \text{—} \end{array} = 7$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \text{—} \\ \text{—} \end{array} = 12$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{—} \\ \text{—} \end{array} = 11$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{—} \\ \text{—} \\ \text{—} \end{array} = 16$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \bullet \\ \text{—} \\ \text{—} \\ \text{—} \end{array} = 18$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \bullet \\ \text{—} \end{array} = 8$$



# Activity Time!

Show that you understand the Mayan's number system for 0-19 by playing concentration with your partner.

Time to look at the Mayan's writing.





How is their writing different to  
ours?

# Maya Hieroglyphs

Maya hieroglyphic writing can be made up of syllabograms (representing sounds) or logograms (representing whole words).

Logograms often resemble the thing that they represent, so it is easy for us to see what they mean, but others are more tricky.

Look closely at these logograms. Can you match them to their meanings?

			
to grab	fire	to scatter	jaguar



**chan**  
'sky'



**winik**  
'person'



**witz**  
'mountain'



**k'in**  
'sun'



**b'alam**  
'jaguar'



**k'ak'**  
'fire'



**bak**  
'bone'



**way**  
'spirit'



**juun**  
'book'



**ja'**  
'water'



**ajaw**  
'lord'



**muyal**  
'cloud'



**ix**  
'woman'



**ch'am**  
'to grab'



**k'uk'**  
'quetzal'



**chan**  
'snake'



**ch'ul**  
'holy'



**chok**  
'to scatter'



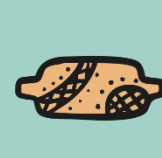
**jaab**  
'year'



**yax**  
'blue/green'



**pakal**  
'shield'



**tok**  
'flint'



**naj**  
'house'



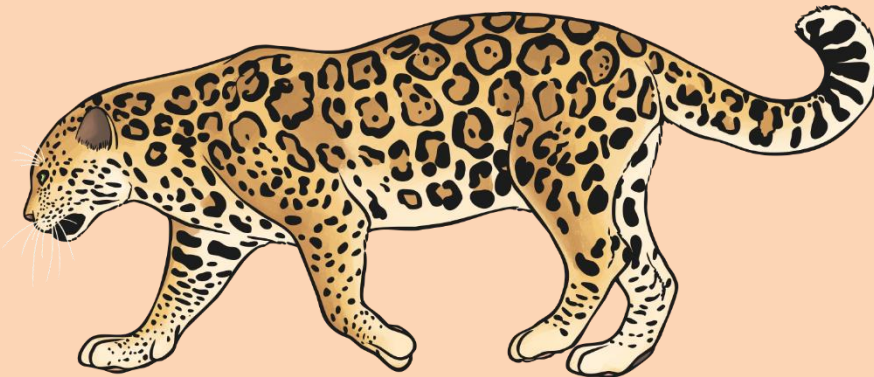
**k'al**  
'twenty'

# Syllabograms

About 150 syllabograms were used in the Maya script and syllables were often represented by more than one glyph. This meant that different people could spell the same words differently depending on which syllabograms they chose to use.

For example, the Maya word for jaguar is b'alam which can be split into three syllables b'a - la - am, with the final 'a' silent.

**Remember there is a logogram for the word jaguar too!**



# Jaguar – b'alam

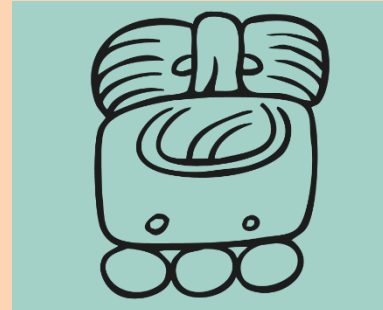
ba



la



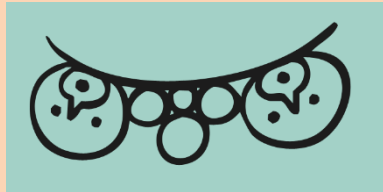
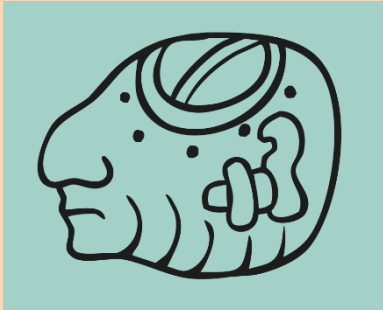
am



+

+

=



# Activity Time!

Create your own logogram to represent  
Juniper / Hornbeam / West Borough.

Explain why you used to represent  
Juniper this way.

What have you  
learnt today?