

Ralph Sadleir School



'Students of Today, Citizens of Tomorrow'

Year 5
History

Who were the Mayans?

In this topic, students will explore the fascinating Maya civilization. They will learn about key aspects of Maya society, including its location, culture, and major achievements. They will examine the roles of different social classes, such as kings, priests, traders, and farmers, and how these groups contributed to daily life. The students will also delve into Maya religion, studying the gods, beliefs, rituals, and the central role religion played in Maya society. They will discover the Maya's remarkable contributions to mathematics, astronomy, writing, and architecture, including their unique calendar system and pyramid temples. Students will analyze Maya art and symbols, interpreting their significance through intricate carvings and murals. Additionally, they will explore the possible reasons for the decline of the Maya civilization and learn how historians study ancient societies. Finally, they will compare the Maya to other ancient civilizations and use primary and secondary sources to deepen their understanding.



Ancient Greeks

In this topic on Ancient Greece, students will explore the key features of Greek society, including its geography, culture, and significant historical events. They will learn about Greece's lasting impact on modern Western civilization, particularly in areas like democracy, philosophy, and the arts. Students will examine Greek society, focusing on the roles of citizens, slaves, and women, and gain an understanding of how democracy worked in Athens, comparing it to other ancient forms of government. They'll explore Greek religion, learning about the gods and myths that shaped daily life. Key achievements in mathematics, science, philosophy, and art will be studied, with a focus on figures like Aristotle and Socrates. Students will also learn about Greek warfare, architecture, and art, exploring key battles and iconic structures such as the Parthenon. Finally, students will compare Ancient Greece with other civilizations, using primary and secondary sources to deepen their understanding.



How did World War 2 shape Britain?

In this topic, students will explore the causes of the Second World War and make connections with the First World War. They will learn key terms such as Axis Powers, Allied Powers, fascist, communist, and neutral, while considering different viewpoints and articulating their reasoning. Students will examine the impact of the war declaration on ordinary people and create a clear, chronological narrative of early events in the conflict. They will explore technological developments that made the war unique, including the significance of the Battle of Britain. Using online sources and first-hand accounts, students will assess the impact of the war on British civilians, identifying bias and verifying information. They will also study anti-Semitism, focusing on Anne Frank's experience, and analyze the decisions of world leaders during the war. Finally, students will reflect on the war's impact on their local area and the post-war world, connecting these events to broader historical changes.



Historic Individuals

In this topic, students will study key historical figures from various periods and learn to describe their lives and contributions. They will evaluate how these individuals shaped events and societies through their actions and decisions. Students will compare and contrast different historical figures, considering their legacies and the contexts in which they lived. They will also develop their ability to analyze primary and secondary sources, such as letters, biographies, and historical documents, to gain deeper insight into these individuals. By considering different perspectives, including the views of both supporters and critics, students will understand how historical figures were perceived in their time. They will make informed judgments about the significance of certain individuals and explore how their impact has lasted over time. Through this process, students will develop their historical inquiry skills, using evidence to construct answers to questions and deepen their understanding of the past.

