

Year 5-Design and Technology-Mayan Weaving

In this unit of work children will examine and explore both ancient Mayan and indigenous descents of the Mayan weaving. Children will have the opportunity to learn about how to weave with a variety of materials and tools.

In this unit children will:

- Look at the art of Mayan weaving from both ancient and modern times and compare and contrast designs and purposes.
- Consider why weaving is/was important to the Mayan peoples in the context of religion, culture, economics and socially.
- Learn how to weave using a simple loom.
- Make prototypes.
- Examine and explore a range of textiles and discuss and consider their suitability for a woven product, including cost and their appeal to an audience.
- Discuss, research and develop an idea to a design criteria by sketching and using technology.
- Use a range of weaving tools and materials to produce a product.
- Continually evaluate and refine a design product, as well as produce an end evaluation that involves carrying out tests.

Prior Learning

EYFS Exploration with textures and combination of different media to create a new effect, exploring tools and techniques.

Year 1 With help measure, mark out, cut and shape a range of materials. Explore using tools safely. Begin to assemble, join and combine materials and components together using a variety of temporary methods.

Year 2 Demonstrate how to cut, shape and join fabric to make a simple product. Use basic sewing techniques. Start to choose finishing techniques based on their own ideas. Join fabric using a running stitch.

Year 3 Identify a purpose and establish criteria for a successful product. Explain their choice of materials and components, including function and aesthetics. Measure, mark, cut out and join fabric components with more accuracy. Make choices of material both for appearance and qualities. Join fabrics using a running stitch.

Year 4 Know how to measure, mark out, cut and shape a range of materials. Start to join and combine materials accurately in temporary and permanent ways. Sew using a range of stitches.

Cross Curricular Links

Topic Mayans

History Ancient Mayan Civilisations

Geography ?

Literacy Mayans Faiths, Myths and Legends

Art Mayan Art

Science Human Development

Key Vocabulary

Weaving: Weaving is a method of textile production in which two distinct sets of yarns or threads are interlaced at right angles to form a fabric or cloth.

Loom: an apparatus for making fabric by weaving yarn or thread.

Thread: a long, thin strand of cotton, nylon, or other fibres used in sewing or weaving.

Textile: a flexible material consisting of a network of natural or artificial fibres. Textiles are formed by weaving, knitting, crocheting, knotting, tating, felting, or braiding.

Natural dyes: Natural dyes are dyes or colorants derived from plants, invertebrates, or minerals.

Chemical dyes: A dye that is not made from a natural source.

Synthetic textiles: textiles made from man-made rather than natural fibres. Some examples of synthetic fabrics are polyester, acrylic and nylon.

Vibrant: bright and striking colours/designs.

Intricate designs: Having many complexly arranged elements.

Warp/Weft: terms for the two basic components used in weaving to turn thread or yarn into fabric. The lengthwise or longitudinal **warp** yarns are held stationary in tension on a frame or loom while the transverse **weft** (sometimes woof) is drawn through and inserted over-and-under the **warp**.

Huipil: a traditional tunic worn by Mayan women made by weaving and joining materials.



Key Questions

- Why is weaving important to the Mayans from both ancient and modern times?
- What materials and colours are traditionally used in Mayan weaving?
- What is a loom and how is it constructed?
- What are the difference between synthetic and man-made textiles and dyes?

Key Knowledge

- To know that to both the Mayan people of the past and their indigenous descendants that weaving is something is very important in their culture, religion and economy, especially to women.
- To know that traditional Mayan weaving features intricate designs using natural dyes and vibrant colours.
- To know the main parts of the loom. (warp and werf).
- To know and name some man-made and natural textiles.