

1 Reading

MAYA LIFE

1. Family

The Maya lived with grandparents, parents and children all together in one house. People got married young; girls at around the age of 12 and boys at around the age of 16.

2. Appearance

The Maya wanted to look nice. They thought crossed eyes were very beautiful and put small objects in between children's eyes to make them cross into the middle. Jewellery was also popular and they wore it on their lips, noses and ears.

3. Architecture

The Maya are famous for their huge pyramids. However, they also built temples and ball courts. There, they played a game similar to basketball.

The Maya were excellent at mathematics and had one of the earliest symbols for zero. They also developed astronomy. They watched the stars and the Sun and could tell what time of the year it was.

4. Science

The Maya ate well. They grew vegetables like corn, fished and also hunted animals. They were also the first people to make a chocolate drink.

5. Food

Look for key words in the text to understand the main ideas.

TIP

C. Read again and complete the fact file about the Maya.

MAYA CIVILISATION

ACTIVE	from	to
POPULATION		
MARRIAGE AGE	girls around 12, boys around 16	
BUILDING TYPES	temples, and ball courts	
ACADEMIC SUBJECTS	mathematics and	
FOOD AND DRINK		