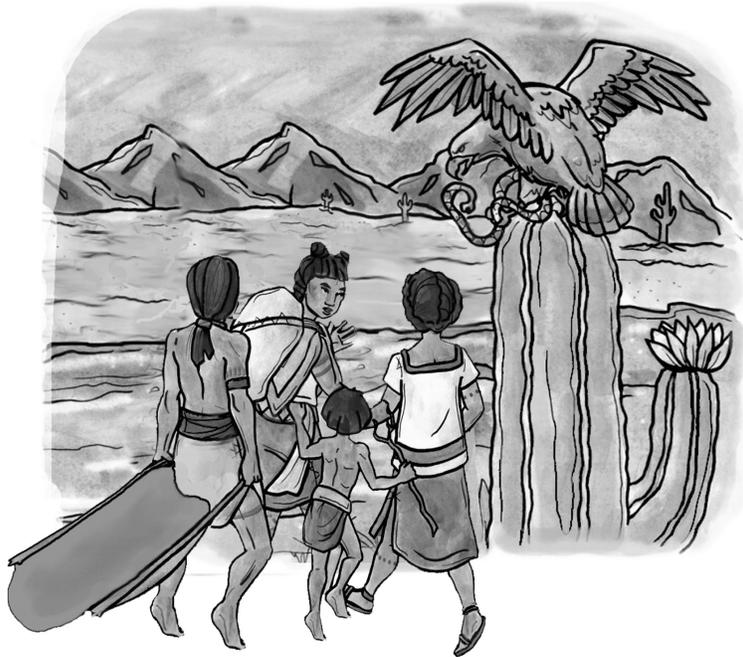


The Quest For the Eagle



Supplemental Activities Packet

This packet contains classroom activity suggestions and worksheets to reinforce concepts from the Playbook® story and to go beyond the story into the content areas of Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, Health, etc., as well as Character Development.

Activities range in age appropriateness and skill level so that teachers can choose activities that best suit their particular students. An Answer Key is provided on the last page.

Aztec Vocabulary



Directions: Match the words from the box below with the definitions, writing the correct letter on the lines provided.

1. _____ A grinding stone—softened corn is placed on the three-legged grinding stone and ground into flour.
2. _____ A throwing stick or board—a long grooved piece of wood on which the thrower placed a spear or dart and then hurled it at the target.
3. _____ A method of farming using artificial islands in shallow lakes as garden beds on which to grow crops. Soil is packed into reed boats, and crops are planted.
4. _____ Nahua word for “mom.”
5. _____ Means “Hummingbird Wizard” in Spanish—the national god of the Aztecs.
6. _____ Nahua word for “dad.”
7. _____ A flat cake made of ground corn.
8. _____ A lake in which the city of Tenochtitlan was built.
9. _____ The mythical homeland of the Aztecs—no one knows exactly where it is.
10. _____ The main Aztec city—it means “The Place of the Cactus People.”

A.
Atl-atl

B.
Aztlán

C.
Chinampas

D.
Huitzilopochtli

E.
Metate

F.
Tene

G.
Tete

H.
Tenochtitlan

I.
Texcoco

J.
Tortilla

Aztec Math



Directions: Since the Aztecs did not have money to trade with, they needed something to use that was not too valuable for small purchases, but that was universally wanted and easily portable. Chocolate in the form of cacao beans was the answer! Two other items used for exchanges were quills of gold dust (collected in the hollow part of a feather) and crescent-shaped knives of thin copper.

Help Chimali's family solve the following word problems!

Assume: 100 cacao beans = 1 quill of gold dust = two copper knives

1. Chimali has 8 times as many cacao beans, two times as many copper knives, but only one third as many quills as Ameyatl. Ameyatl has twice as many copper knives, one less quill, and 50 less beans than Yoali. Yoali has 3 times as many cacao beans as Mixtli and twice the number of quills, but one less knife. Mixtli has 2 quills, 50 cacao beans and 3 knives. How many of each item do the rest of them have?

2. It takes 400 cacao beans to make one pound of chocolate. If Yoali decides to make chocolate, how many quills (of wealth) will she need to possess in order to make 10 kilograms of chocolate if a kilogram equals 2.2 pounds?

3. This one's a little trickier. Some snakes eat crickets. On this particular day there is one cricket every hundred feet. If one snake crawls at one foot per second, and the other snake crawls at two feet per second, how many seconds will the snakes have crawled in total by the time they have eaten a total of 21 crickets?

4. A bird flying south for the winter was temporarily blinded by the sun and lost his way. Fortunately, he soon spotted the rest of his group. They were only 1000 feet away, flying 10 feet per second. He sped up, and started flying 20 feet per second to catch up. How many seconds did it take before he was back with the group?

5. If a mother Sagebrush lizard is 4 times as long as her baby and both of them together measure 10 cm, how long is the baby?

Name: _____

Aztec Facts Web Search



Directions: Use the Internet at home or at your school's library to discover the answers to the following questions about Aztec history.

1. According to Aztec religion, how many tries did it take the gods to successfully create the earth and humans? Why did it take so long?

2. True or False? (*Circle one.*) The Aztecs were confident that this current form of creation would last and they were in no danger of being extinguished by natural disasters or another angry god. Please elaborate.

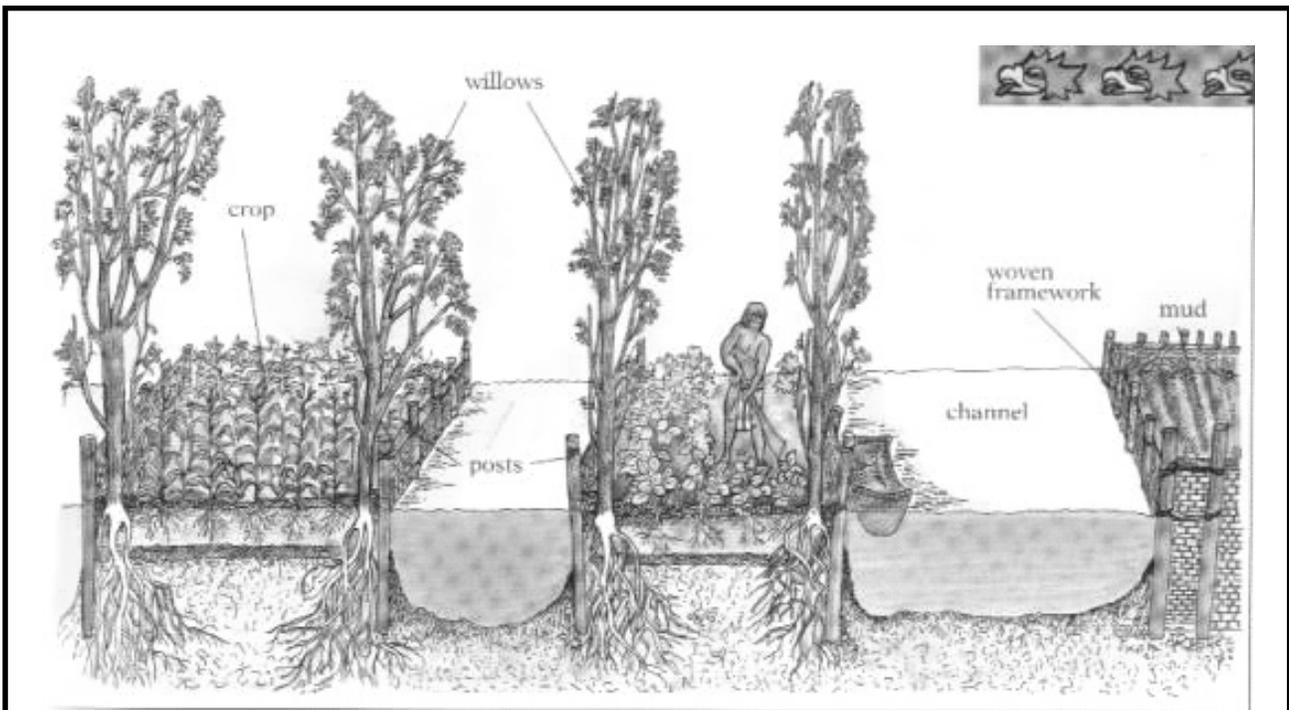
3. What is another name for the Aztec civilization? _____

4. Did the Aztecs practice polygamy? Describe a typical Aztec family structure.

5. Describe the Aztec's unique education system.

6. Explain the importance of warriors in Aztec society. How did being a warrior affect one's life and place in the empire?

Floating Gardens of Tenochtitlan



Aztec Chinampas

As you learned in *The Quest For the Eagle*, the Aztecs' homeland was filled with shallow bodies of water. The Aztecs used a special method of farming to adapt to the land they settled on. Their floating gardens were called chinampas, shown in the picture above.

To make them, farmers marked the edges of the gardens with posts and wove branches through them to make a fence around the perimeter. The areas were then filled with mud from the lakebed. This soil was very fertile and produced $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Aztec's crops, allowing their people to be fed when traditional farming land was unavailable.



Directions: Research what is left of Aztec chinampas and the Aztec people in Mexico today. How has pollution affected the use of the gardens? What is their main purpose now? Do Aztecs themselves still live in Mexico? If so, explain their current typical way of life. Address this prompt in a short essay on a separate sheet of paper.

ANSWER KEY

FOR TEACHER USE ONLY

Aztec Vocabulary

1. E
2. A
3. C
4. F
5. D
6. G
7. J
8. I
9. B
10. H

Aztec Math

1. Ameyatl - 4 knives, 3 quills, 100 beans
Chimali - 8 knives, 1 quill, 400 beans
Yoali - 2 knives, 4 quills, 150 beans
2. 88 quills
3. 700 seconds
4. 100 seconds
5. 2 cm

Aztec Facts Web Search *(Sample Answers)*

1. It took them 5 tries because the gods fought amongst themselves and could not agree on who would be sacrificed and who would be the sun.
2. False. The Aztecs were highly preoccupied with the end of the world, which they feared in particular every 52 years.
3. Mexica Empire
4. Yes. A man married his primary wife in an elaborate ceremony but secondary wives were officially recognized as well. Children in the family were born of any of the wives and the man was expected to treat everyone in his family equally in daily life. However, only the children of his primary wife would inherit his property.
5. Education was mandatory for all children regardless of social status or gender. In the early years, education was similar for all, but eventually split into upper and lower class and boys and girls. The upper class children were taught to become priests or leaders, while the lower class were taught trades and basic culture. There appears to have been some choice involved in what job path a person pursued.
6. Warriors were highly celebrated in Aztec society, and it was the only way a man of lower social status could rise higher in status. Successful warriors often gained rewards such as better food than commoners or more influence in politics. They also were rewarded with land, which would be passed down to his heirs.





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