

The Mayans

Learning Objective:

To compare the physical geography of Mesoamerica and the UK.

Can you remember where the Mayans lived?



Can you remember the names of the modern-day countries where the Mayans lived?

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The Mayans lived in North America.



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The area the Mayans lived in now covers the countries of Mexico, Belize, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.



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What do you think these countries might be like?

How might they be different to where we live?

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How do you think the climate might be different in Central America and the UK?

Do you think it rains more in Central America or the UK?

Do you think the landscapes in Central America might be different to the UK?



How could we find out the answers to these questions?

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There are lots of sources of information we could use to help us compare the physical geography of Central America and the UK. We can use data to look at average temperatures and precipitation to help us explore the climates of these places.

Average monthly temperature in °C

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize City, Belize	23	24	26	27	28	28	28	28	27	26	25	24
Manchester, UK	5	5	7	9	12	14.5	16.5	16.5	14	10.5	7	4

What can you learn from this data?



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The Yucatan Peninsula is a large, flat area of land that separates the Caribbean sea and the Gulf of Mexico. The region is frequently hit by hurricanes and tropical storms during the Atlantic Hurricane Season. These storms bring high winds and heavy rain; they often cause flooding.

Humidity is fairly high, particularly in and around the rain forests which are found in parts of the region.

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You can use written descriptions in books or on the internet to help you find out what these places are like.



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You can use pictures to compare the two locations.



What differences can you see between these two pictures?



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