# Mayan Civilization With Stixy
## Grades 9-12

### Overview

1. Students will understand Mayan civilizations and the connections between their states during the classical period.
2. Students will be aware of what archaeologists can teach us about ancient civilizations.

### Objective

After being introduced to Mayan civilizations students will research further and use their findings to create a news website using Stixy which will display their knowledge of the subject.

### Standards

**World History and Civilization**
This two-semester course emphasizes key events and developments in the past that influenced people and places in subsequent eras. Students are expected to practice skills and processes of historical thinking and inquiry that involve chronological thinking, comprehension, analysis and interpretation, research, issues-analysis, and decision-making. They examine the key concepts of continuity and change, universality and particularity, and unity and diversity among various peoples and cultures from the past to the present.

**World Geography**
Students use maps, globes, graphs, and information technology as they study global patterns of physical and cultural characteristics. Students are expected to apply knowledge of geographic concepts to research, inquiry, and participatory processes. Standards are organized around six elements: the world in spatial terms, places and regions, physical systems, human systems, environment and society, and the uses of geography.

### Materials

For this assignment students will need:
- A computer and access to Stixy
- Encyclopedias, internet, Atlases, and other books where information can be found about Mayan civilization

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**Procedure**

1. Explain to students that they will explore the ancient civilization of the Maya during the classical period, from A.D. 300 to A.D. 900. This time in Maya civilization was marked by the growth of city-states and by imperial wars between them. Students will then prepare news reports about major events of this period. Events might include a great war planned for a special astronomical date or the capture of a rival king and his city-state.

2. Explain to students that their news reports may be in the form of a magazine article, with sidebars providing background information; a major newspaper story; or an editorial. Although students are reporting on historical events, they should strive to give their news stories a present-day immediacy. They will be posting their articles on Stixy in a manner that represents a news or magazine article website.

3. Have students work in small groups. Provide each group with a list of the classical period city-states, including Tikal, Clakmul, Piedras Niegras, and Uaxactun. If students are interested in other classical period city-states, allow them to explore these as well. Ensure that each group has chosen a different city-state so that no two groups report on the same event.

4. Encourage students to analyze the media format in which they choose to present their reports. Challenge them to include as many features of the media as they can, such as headlines, illustrations, graphic titles, sidebars, and editorials. Students may even wish to stage interviews with kings of the city-states.

5. Collect encyclopedias and a variety of books and magazine articles about the Maya classical period. If possible, purchase a copy of "The Clash of the Maya Kings" for student viewing. If you have Internet access for your students, you might also want to bookmark the Maya-related Internet sites listed below.

6. Allow class time for each group to present its news report. Include a class discussion period so that students can ask any questions they still have.

7. Display the news reports for other classes to view.

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<th>Evaluation</th>
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<td>Students will be graded based on their prepared news report that they have created on Stixy. For full points they will need to have one main article about Mayan civilization, two side articles, and at least one photograph. The assignment will be out of 20 points and will be graded based on whether or not these things are on the report, and the thoroughness and quality of what they have written. It is expected the written articles will be grammatically correct, and the main story at least 600 words.</td>
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