

MAYAN MASKS

Please watch this Youtube Video about The Ancient Mayans to learn a little bit about their Culture before we start this project:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTCSTUfRTMA> (Title: Introducing the Maya civilisation | History - Lost Lands)

Please read the information below, this will help you learn about Mayan Masks and give you ideas for your creative project (NO PRINTING REQUIRED).

Mayan masks had a wide variety of uses and the importance of the masks dictated how intricate the designs on various masks were. The most sacred Mayan masks featured complex and delicate mosaics made out of jade.

Other materials used were stone, wood, gold, shell and obsidian (a hard, dark, glass-like volcanic rock)

Why were they used?

The Mayan's used masks for a variety of reasons and occasions. These included:

- To adorn (decorate) the faces of the dead
- To be worn at important events
- To be worn during battle

THE 3 TYPES OF MAYAN MASKS:



BATTLE MASKS

Worn by the Mayans in important events like Battles, and usually carved from wood or stone. These designs focussed on the use of darker colours.



EVENT MASKS

worn during important events such as weddings and birth ceremonies. These masks often used heavenly beings, animals or designs for entertainment purposes. These masks used amazing designs with bright, vibrant colours painted onto wooden surfaces.



DEATH MASKS

used to adorn the faces of the dead were often seen as the most sacred and therefore were the most elaborate.

- These masks used a mosaic patterning of the beautiful greens and blues of the Jade stone to show the close sacred connection between the people and their Gods.

MAYAN MASKS

I have put together some fun activities you could have a go at doing at home that link to Mayan Masks . Choose if you would like to make a **BATTLE**, **DEATH** or **CELEBRATION** mask.

If you don't have the resources to make these, don't worry, just choose **ONE** you think you could do. If you want to do more, then feel free to be creative!

1. **Egg Box Mask** - Using empty egg boxes you could make a structure of a Mask. Use glue or tape to stick them together. If you could, paint or colour them using traditional Mayan Mask colours. Remember to refer to the information sheet about the 3 masks on the other page.

2. **Mosaic Masks** - Using some old card or cardboard boxes, design your own Mayan Mask you can wear! To make your mosaics you don't have to just use paper, you could use things around the house such as empty crisp packets, foil, magazines, leaflets etc.



3. **Nature Mayan Mask** - using any left over cardboard boxes, and using natural resources (if you go outside) to incorporate into your Mayan Mask.
This one is a bit trickier to do in the current circumstances so please stay safe and only use your garden to do this.



4. **Paper and Pencil Mask / Digital drawing** -
Don't worry if you are struggling for some of the equipment above, you can simply just design your mask onto a piece of paper if you wish. If you are tech savvy please feel free to use your tablet, or computer to design one. Be creative and use colours to add to your design!
Remember to choose whether to do a Battle, Death or celebration mask.

Enjoy creating and I look forward to seeing your results. You can take a photograph and send them to me, or wait until we return to school and bring them in then.