Maya, Aztec, Inca Study Guide
Test Date: Thursday, October 22

Format: Your first social studies test will contain multiple choice and open response questions. There will also be a section to match up sentences with the civilization the sentence is talking about.

What You Should Know

➢ Any information from the reading packet could be included on your test.

➢ You should know where each civilization was located.

  ○ **Maya:** Yucatán Peninsula, Mexico & Central America
  ○ **Aztec:** Central Mexico
  ○ **Inca:** Along the western coast of South America

➢ You should know how each civilization came to an end.

  ○ **Maya:** No one knows for sure what happened to the Maya, but scientists now believe their civilization collapsed due to a period of extreme drought.

  ○ **Aztec:** Hernan Cortes attacked the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan with the help of the enemies of the Aztecs. His army also killed Montezuma II, the Aztec ruler. Finally, the Spanish brought over many illnesses that the Aztecs had no immunity or medicine to combat. Almost all of the remaining Aztec died, but a few of their descendants are still alive today.

  ○ **Inca:** The Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro conquered the Inca Empire. Their downfall was helped by the illnesses that the Spanish brought to the Inca people. Descendants of the Inca are still alive today, and the language they spoke, Quechua, is still used by millions of people.
➢ You should know the major city or cities of each empire.

- **Major Maya Cities**: Chichen Itza, Copan
- **Major Aztec Cities**: Tenochtitlan (Tenochtitlan was their capital)
- **Major Inca Cities**: Machu Picchu, Cuzco (Cuzco was their capital)

➢ You should know the most famous rulers of the Aztec and Inca empires.

- **Aztec**: Montezuma II
- **Inca**: All rulers were called the Sapa Inca, but the actual name of the most famous Sapa Inca was Atahualpa, who was killed by the Spanish.

➢ You should know the difference between an Aztec slave and a Mayan slave. (You can find another copy of the slavery information on my website.)

➢ You should know what each civilization was known for.

- **Maya**: Astronomy, writing, and math
- **Aztec**: Fierce Warriors
- **Inca**: Llamas, Alpacas, and Engineers (known for roads, rope suspension bridges, buildings)

➢ You should know what pok-ta-pok is. (Mayan Ball Game)

- What are the rules?
  - You can’t use your hands or feet. You have to get the ball through a hoop.

- What happens if you win or lose?
  - If you win, you can take anything you want from the spectators. If you lose, you could be sacrificed to the gods.

➢ Who was “He-Who-Sees-Everything”? What was his job? (Check your packet)

➢ Any of the vocab words in the boxes in your reading packet may show up on your test.