



# Mysteries of the Maya

NG Kids investigates the many strange myths surrounding the ancient Mayan civilisation...

 This is the story of one of the world's most inventive civilisations, the ancient Maya, and how their incredible empire mysteriously collapsed.

For hundreds of years, from around 250AD, the Maya ruled over an area now known as Southern Mexico, Guatemala, Belize and Honduras. At one time, more than 40 cities were home to about two million Mayan people.

But, strangely, by 900AD most of the cities had been abandoned and the people had drifted back into the forests and jungles. Nobody knows for sure why this happened. Turn the page to explore one of the biggest mysteries in archaeology...

## THE MAYAN CIVILISATION



This map shows where the ancient Maya lived and their most important temple complexes

The ancient Maya built cities with amazing palaces, pyramids, plazas and temples, like the Temple Of Kukulkan at Chichén Itzá