



## The Mayan Calendar

The Maya were very keen astronomers. They studied the sun, moon and stars and developed their own calendar based on their observations. The Mayan calendar was split into three parts: The Tzolkin, the Haab and the Long Cycle. Each calendar worked as a simultaneous cycle and would start again when it came to the end of the cycle.

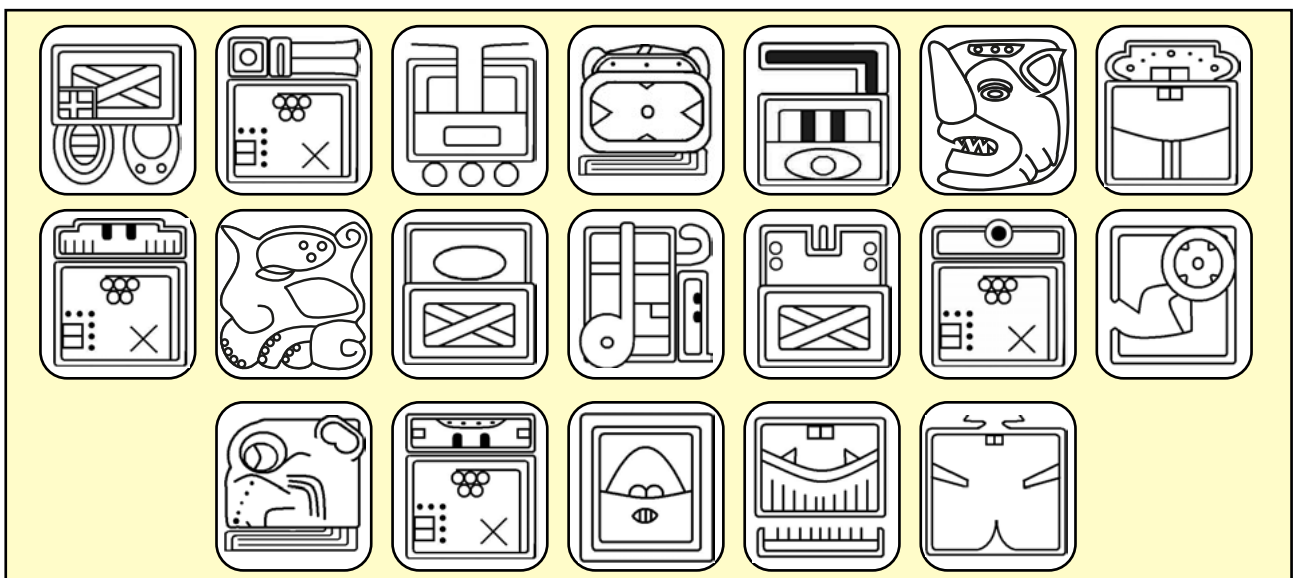
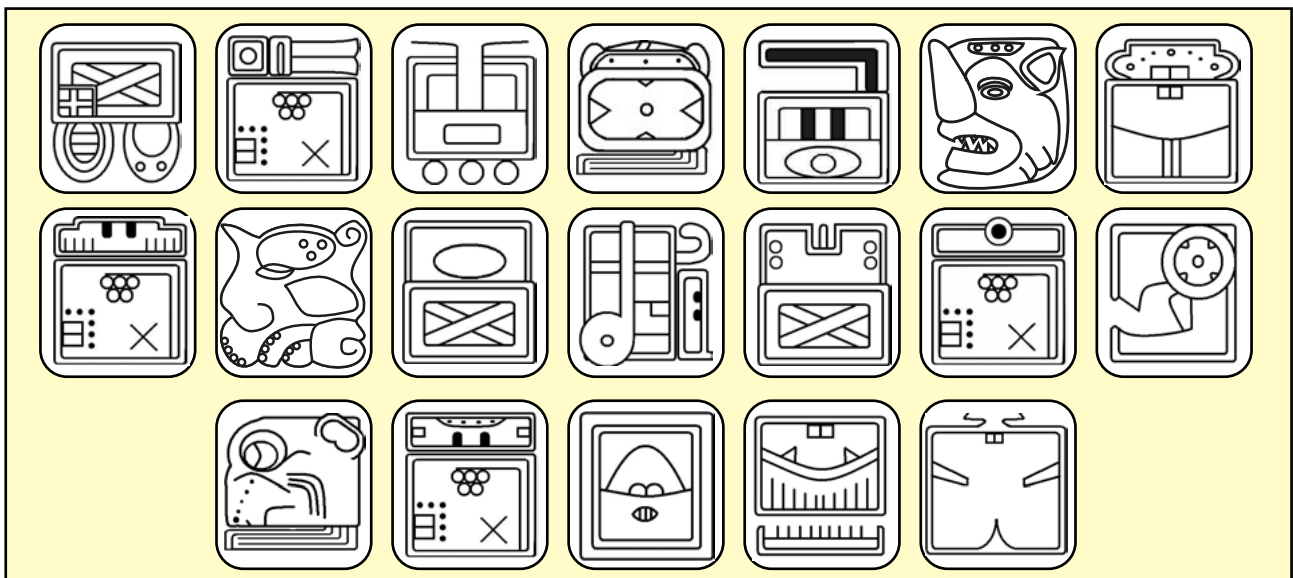
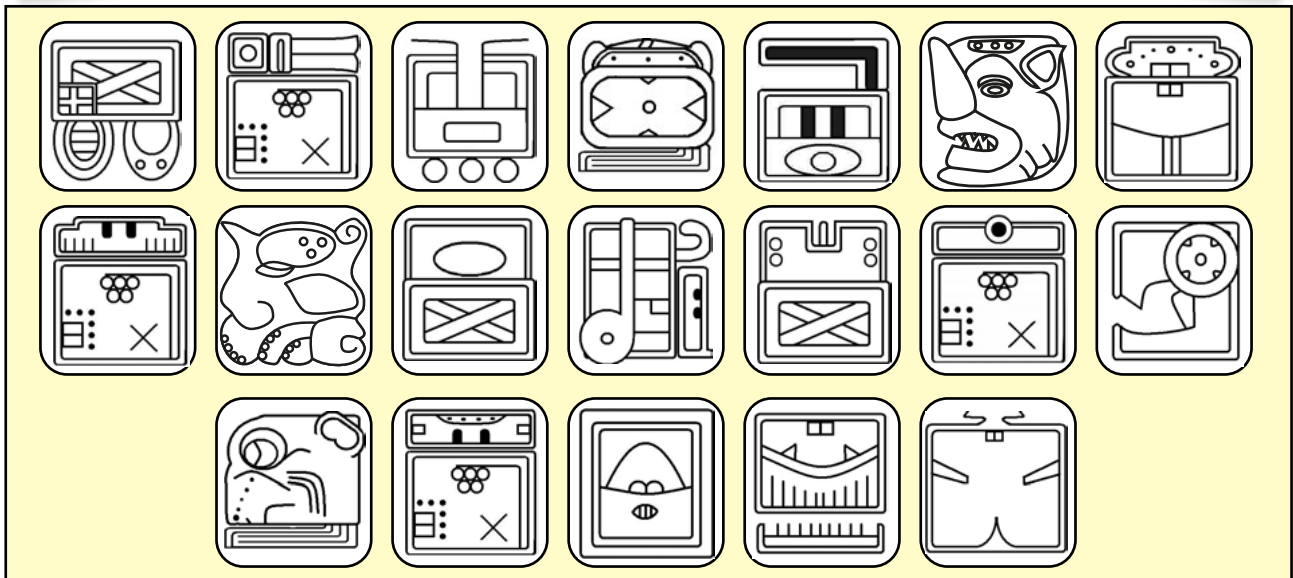
The **Tzolkin** is the 'day' calendar. It is split into a cycle of 20 days and 13 cycles of days. This means there are 260 days in each cycle. Each day has its own name and its own glyph:

1. Imix 	2. Ik 	3. Akbal 	4. Kan 	5. Chikchan 	6. Kimi 	7. Manik 	8. Lamat 	9. Muluk 	10. Ok 
11. Chuwen 	12. Eb 	13. Ben 	14. Ix 	15. Men 	16. Kib 	17. Kaban 	18. Etznab 	19. Kawak 	20. Ajaw 

The **Haab** is the 'month' calendar. A complete cycle of the Haab calendar takes 365 days. The days are split into 18 months of 20 days each, with an added month (Uayeb) for the extra 5 days. These days are considered unlucky by the Maya. Each month has its own name and its own glyph:

1. Pop 	2. Wo 	3. Sip 	4. Sotz 	5. Sek 	6. Xul 	7. Yaxkin 	8. Mol 	9. Chen 	10. Yax 
11. Sak 	12. Keh 	13. Mak 	14. Kankin 	15. Muan 	16. Pax 	17. Kayab 	18. Kumku 	19. Uayeb 	

The **Long Count** calendar measures longer periods of time. Each cycle lasts 2,880,000 days. The Maya believed that when a cycle of the Long Count calendar comes to an end, the universe would be destroyed and then recreated. There was a Mayan prophecy that a cycle of the Long Count calendar would end in 2012. Lots of people thought this might be the end of the world!





Cut out the glyphs for each of the months in the Mayan Haab calendar, then put them in order around the calendar. When you have done that, decorate the calendar to make it look Mayan.

