

YEAR 2 CYCLE A CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

A broad and balanced curriculum that builds knowledge, sparks curiosity and helps every child to flourish.

EXPLORE
DISCOVER
BELONG
FLOURISH



HISTORY-LED FLIGHT THROUGH TIME

BIG QUESTION

How has flying changed over time?

We explore the story of flight, from early inventions to modern aircraft, and discover how flying has changed travel and everyday life.



HISTORY-LED TITANIC TRAGEDY

BIG QUESTION

Why is the sinking of the Titanic still remembered today?

We learn about the Titanic, life on board, and why this famous event is still remembered, while also exploring journeys and the coast.



HISTORY-LED AGE OF THE AZTECS

BIG QUESTION

Who were the Aztecs, and why did their civilisation end?

We explore the Aztecs, their beliefs and achievements, and think about why their civilisation changed over time.

WHAT PARENTS WILL SEE IN THIS OVERVIEW

Each topic page shows the key learning, memorable experiences, suggested texts and practical challenges from the Year 2 Cycle A class plan. Alongside these themed units, children also explore religious education across the year, computing, music, PE, French and PSHE.

Learning in God's Love

COURAGE • COMPASSION • COMMUNITY

Where every child belongs, grows and flourishes.

Brighter
Futures
Together

HISTORY-LED TOPIC

FLIGHT THROUGH TIME

Explore the story of flight while making links across geography, science, creativity and computing.



HISTORY

Discover how flight changed over time, from early ideas and inventions to aeroplanes today. Learn about key pioneers and how flying changed travel and everyday life.



SCIENCE

Learn about healthy humans, including a balanced diet, exercise, hygiene and how germs spread. Also explore homes, habitats and camouflage, finding out how living things survive in different places.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Investigate sliders, levers and linkages, then design and make a greetings card with a moving part.



COMPUTING

Develop early computing skills by staying safe online, using algorithms and beginning programming and debugging.



GEOGRAPHY

Use atlases, compasses and map keys to find places around the world. Explore the equator, hemispheres, hot and cold places, and compare England with Somalia through simple fieldwork and enquiry.



ART

Experiment with colour by mixing hues, comparing warm and cool colours and printing with simple materials. Explore how artists use colour to create different effects.



ENGLISH

Read, discuss and write in a range of ways linked to our topics, including descriptions, simple reports, instructions and creative writing.



RE

Explore Navratri and Hanukkah, learning about celebration, Hindu gods, the Hanukkah and the idea of miracles.

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

Growing from seed; lighting the candles; map work and geographical enquiry.

SUGGESTED TEXTS

Collins World Atlas – Collins Kids.

INNOVATE CHALLENGES

Geographical enquiry; camouflage investigation; creating an interesting colour composition; improving a greetings card with a moving part; thinking about celebrations; exploring miracles.

ASK ME ABOUT

How flight changed over time. How maps help us. Healthy choices. Camouflage. Navratri and Hanukkah.

Learning in God's Love

COURAGE • COMPASSION • COMMUNITY

Where every child belongs, grows and flourishes.

HISTORY-LED TOPIC

TITANIC TRAGEDY

Explore the story of the Titanic while making links across geography, science, art and design.



HISTORY

Find out why the sinking of the Titanic is still remembered today. Explore life on board, the voyage, and how this event became an important part of history.



SCIENCE

Investigate materials and their properties, including how things bend, stretch and change shape. Also explore plants, what they need to grow and how seeds germinate.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Design and make seaside structures, exploring how materials can be joined and strengthened to create a stable beach hut.



GEOGRAPHY

Use maps, globes and atlases to explore seas and oceans. Learn about coasts, human and physical features, locational language, compass directions, erosion, tourism and how seaside places change over time.



ART

Study floral forms, colour, shape, form, texture and pattern. Explore the work of Yayoi Kusama and create drawings, printmaking and simple 3-D work.



ENGLISH

Read and write descriptions, adventure narratives, non-chronological reports and persuasive writing linked to our seaside and Titanic learning.



RE

Explore Christmas and Advent, thinking about joy and why Christmas is important for Christians.

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

New baby visit; coastal visit.

SUGGESTED TEXT

Katie Morag and the New Pier – Mairi Hedderwick; The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle.

INNOVATE CHALLENGES

My coastal town; exploring joy; investigating seed growth; creating a 3-D flower; making a stable beach hut.

ASK ME ABOUT

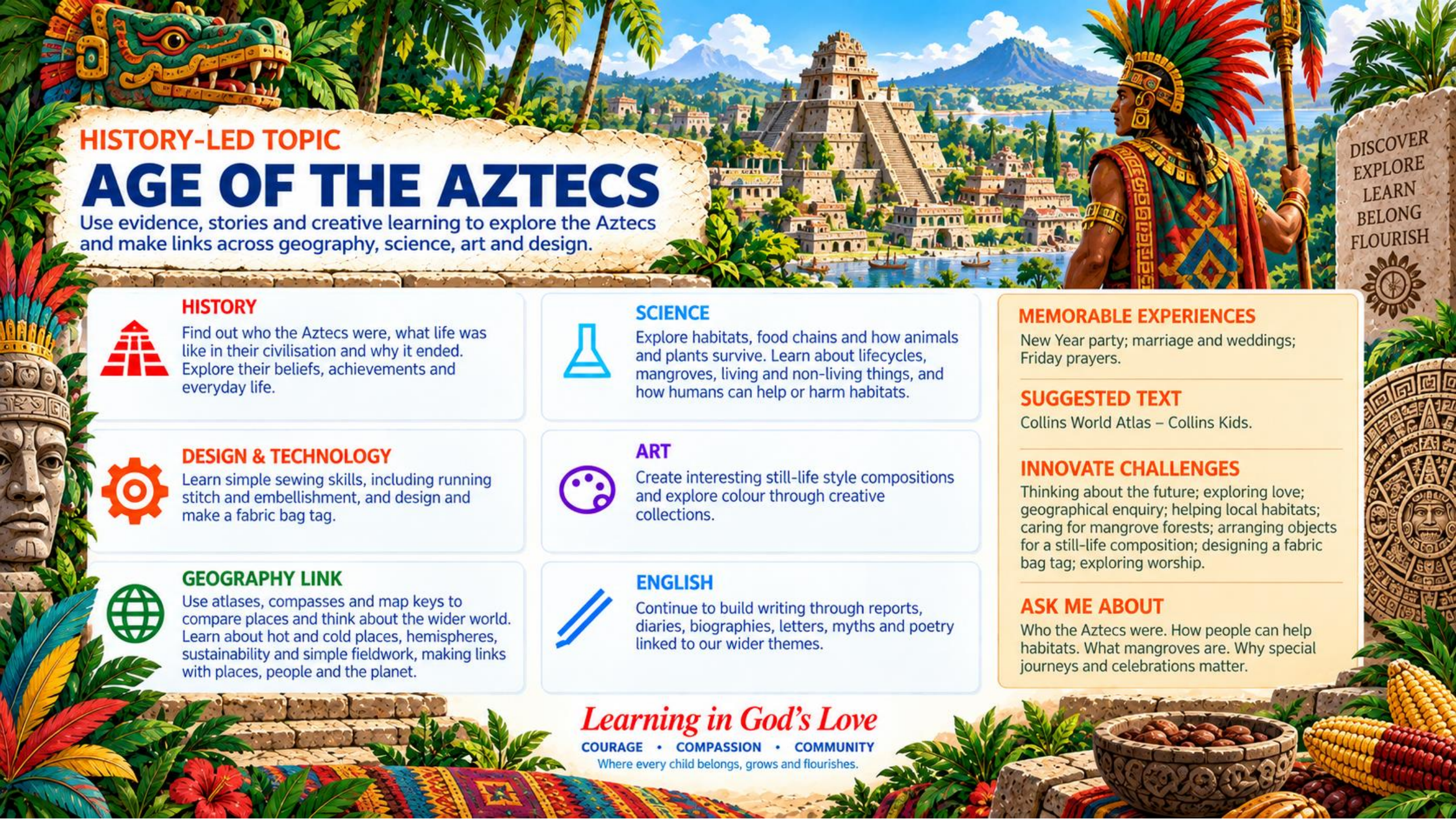
Why the Titanic is remembered.
What coasts are like.
How materials change shape.
What plants need to grow.
Why Christmas brings joy.

Learning in God's Love

COURAGE • COMPASSION • COMMUNITY

Where every child belongs, grows and flourishes





HISTORY-LED TOPIC

AGE OF THE AZTECS

Use evidence, stories and creative learning to explore the Aztecs and make links across geography, science, art and design.

HISTORY



Find out who the Aztecs were, what life was like in their civilisation and why it ended. Explore their beliefs, achievements and everyday life.

SCIENCE



Explore habitats, food chains and how animals and plants survive. Learn about lifecycles, mangroves, living and non-living things, and how humans can help or harm habitats.

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

New Year party; marriage and weddings; Friday prayers.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



Learn simple sewing skills, including running stitch and embellishment, and design and make a fabric bag tag.

ART



Create interesting still-life style compositions and explore colour through creative collections.

SUGGESTED TEXT

Collins World Atlas – Collins Kids.

GEOGRAPHY LINK



Use atlases, compasses and map keys to compare places and think about the wider world. Learn about hot and cold places, hemispheres, sustainability and simple fieldwork, making links with places, people and the planet.

ENGLISH



Continue to build writing through reports, diaries, biographies, letters, myths and poetry linked to our wider themes.

INNOVATE CHALLENGES

Thinking about the future; exploring love; geographical enquiry; helping local habitats; caring for mangrove forests; arranging objects for a still-life composition; designing a fabric bag tag; exploring worship.

ASK ME ABOUT

Who the Aztecs were. How people can help habitats. What mangroves are. Why special journeys and celebrations matter.

Learning in God's Love

COURAGE • COMPASSION • COMMUNITY

Where every child belongs, grows and flourishes.

EXPLORE
BELIEVE
RESPECT
LEARN
TOGETHER

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ACROSS CYCLE A

Six units invite children to explore beliefs and practices respectfully, while thinking deeply about celebration, miracles, joy, compassion, love, worship and special journeys.

Different
People
Brighter
World

KINDNESS
BUILDS A
BETTER
TOMORROW

RESPECT
UNDERSTAND
BELONG
FLOURISH



NAVRATRI

Hindu gods; Navratri traditions; Celebration.

We explore Navratri and find out how Hindus celebrate, learning about important stories, traditions and the joy of celebration.



Big question:

How do celebrations show what people believe?



HANUKKAH

Hanukkah traditions and customs; Hanukkah; Miracles.

We learn about Hanukkah, why candles are lit and why the story of miracles is remembered.



Big question:

Why are miracles remembered?



CHRISTMAS

Christmas; Advent; Joy.

We explore Christmas and Advent, thinking about joy and why Jesus' birth is important for Christians.



Big question:

What brings joy at Christmas?



LOSAR

New Year; Compassion; Thanks; The future.

We learn about Losar as a New Year celebration and think about gratitude, compassion and hopes for the future.



Big question:

How can we look ahead with hope?



ANAND KARAJ

Marriage; Sikh weddings; Traditions and customs; Love.

We explore Sikh weddings and find out why marriage, promises and love are important.



Big question:

What makes a loving commitment special?



JUMU'AH

Prayer; Features of mosques; Worship.

We explore Jumu'ah, learning about prayer, worship and what happens in a mosque.



Big question:

Why is worship important?

LITERACY & LEARNING ACROSS THE YEAR

Writing genres: descriptions, adventure narratives, non-chronological reports, persuasive writing, diaries, biographies, letters, myths and poetry.

Learning by doing: geographical enquiry, growing from seed, coastal visits, designing moving cards, floral art, seaside structures, habitats work, sewing and creative challenges.

Linked across the curriculum: making thoughtful connections between our learning in RE, English, history, geography, science, art, design & technology, computing, music, PE and PSHE.

EXPLORE
DISCUSS
READ
CREATE
CONNECT

Big ideas
Brighter futures

CURIOSITY
COMPASSION
COMMUNITY