

WORKSHOP – Mesoamerican Maths and Architecture

ARTIST – Marnie Hardy

YEAR GROUP – Key Stage 2

DESCRIPTION

Explore the fascinating world of ancient Mesoamerican architecture and investigate the significance of maths and astronomy in Maya culture and urban planning.

Pupils will study mathematical patterns and structures in nature and investigate how the harmonious proportions of natural forms such as shells and flowers were adopted by the Maya in the 'sacred geometries' of their architecture, influencing the construction and layout of their buildings, from their grand temples to the most modest of homes.

Pupils will compare and contrast ancient Maya architecture to the Sainsbury Centre building and UEA Ziggurats, and will employ a traditional Maya technique to achieve a harmonious layout, using the Golden Ratio, without the use of tape measures!

Discussion will be interspersed with drawing and small-scale construction activities within key sections of the gallery spaces.

SKILLS AND THEMATIC LINKS Proportion, Golden Ratio, Fibonacci series, Architecture, Environment, Construction

LOCATION Sainsbury Collection galleries, and outside UEA campus buildings

PRICES Gallery fee Recommended as one 2 hour session, but could be condensed into two 1 hour sessions (each for x15). Option to extend to a full day.

NOTES Each 2hr session accommodates up to 30 students. Sessions are typically 10-12:00 and 12:30-14:30pm.

AVAILABILITY This workshop is usually only available on Thursdays.

