

# Maya Gods

## Itzamna

(meaning 'Iguana'  
or 'Lizard House')

One of the creator gods.

Inventor of writing.

Patron of learning.

Portrayed in human form as an  
old man with no teeth and a  
large nose.



# Maya Gods

## Ix Chel

(meaning 'Lady Rainbow')

Goddess of childbirth, healing,  
weaving and the Moon

Wife of Itzamna and the mother of  
many gods.

Portrayed in human form wearing  
a headdress of snakes entangled in  
her hair, and toes and fingers that  
looked like jaguar claws.

Capable of causing floods and  
destruction.



# Maya Gods

## Maize God - Yumil Kaxob

(meaning 'owner of crop')

God of agriculture/flora and  
associated with the Maize God

From his head sprouted an ear of  
maize and he wore a headdress.

Was important because the diet of  
the Maya was 80% maize and they  
relied on the harvest being  
successful.



# Maya Gods

## Chac

(meaning 'rain')

Rain god who brought the rain needed to make crops grow.

Created storms, thunder and lightning.

Caused wars and human sacrifice.

Portrayed as a human with a curling snout and reptile fangs.



# Maya Gods

## Kimi

(meaning 'Lord of Death')

Death god who ruled over the underworld.

Portrayed as a human with a skeletal nose, jaw and spine along with a body covered in hideous spots.



# Maya Gods

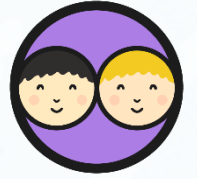
## K'inich Ahau (meaning 'sun-eyed')

Sun god who brought the sun up in the morning and down every evening.

Portrayed in human form as an old man with large square eyes and a hooked nose.



# Extension- Maya Gods and Religion Quiz



What have you learnt about Maya gods and religion? Can you correctly answer these 5 questions?

1. Why did the Maya perform blood letting rituals?
2. Who was the supreme god?
3. Who guarded the Underworld?
4. Name 3 priestly jobs.
5. Who could go to the Upperworld after they died?

Let's discuss the answers. How many did you get right?

Can you think of 3 of your own Maya gods and religion quiz?

