

# Amazing Aztecs Activity

## Discovering the Aztec World

### National Curriculum Aims:

**History:** To study a non-European society that provides a contrast with British history.

**Geography:** To understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region in North America.

To locate present day Mexico on a world map.

Christopher Columbus began the Spanish conquest of America in 1492. Later, Mexican territory was conquered by Hernán Cortés in the early 16th Century. It would have taken a long time to sail from Spain to America - possibly 2 months depending on the weather.

Use this activity to further explore the journey made by the Spanish Conquistadors and discover the land they would eventually conquer.

### What you need:

- Atlas
- Access to the Internet
- Activity sheet

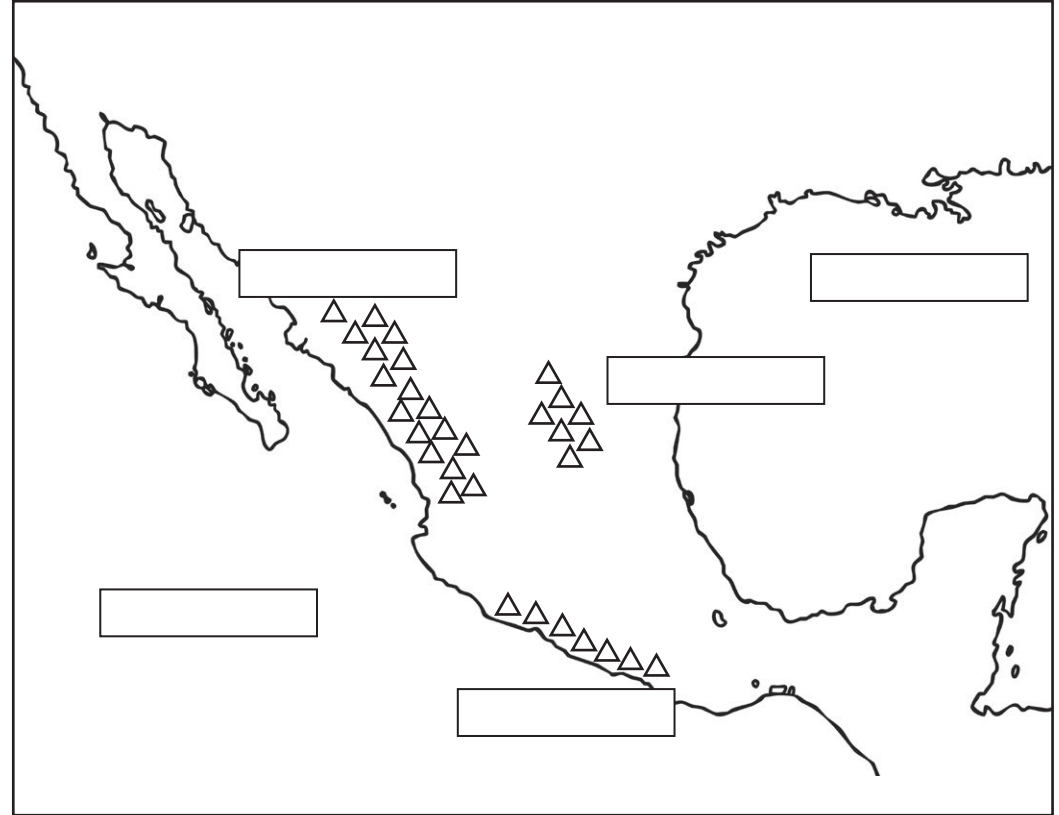
### What to do:

Answer the questions and follow the instructions on the activity sheet to build up a map of the Aztec landscape.

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On the world map:

- Label Spain and colour it red.
- Label Mexico and colour it green.



On the map of Mexico:

- Mark Mexico City and Lake Texcoco. This is where the Aztecs founded the city Tenochtitlán.
- Mark Cempoala. This is where Hernán Cortés landed in 1519.
- Name the bodies of water on Mexico's coast. Which one would the Spanish ships have sailed over?
- Name the mountain ranges surrounding Mexico City. Can you name the largest active volcano in Mexico?