

Design an Aztec Sunstone

National Curriculum Aims:

History: To study a non-European society that provides a contrast with British history.
To explore Aztec inventions and sculptures.

Maths: Compare and classify geometric shapes based on their properties and sizes.

The Sunstone is perhaps the most amazing form of Aztec technology.

The **Xiuhpohualli** calendar tracked time over 365 days of rituals by season. It predicted 5 unlucky days when disaster was likely to happen. The **Tonalpohualli** calendar had 260 days and divided time between the gods to keep the universe in balance.

It was made of stone and carved in beautiful detail.



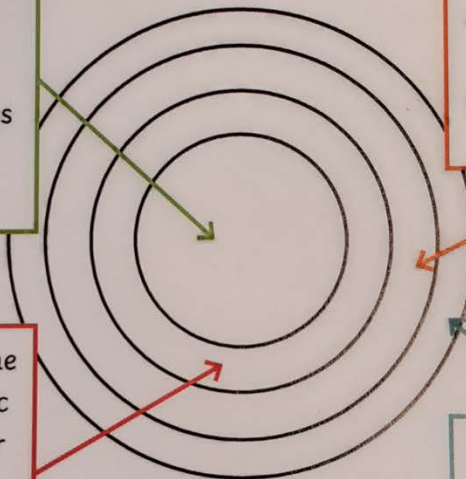
Follow the instructions below. You can use the template provided or make your own.

Draw a sun with a face in the centre. This is to represent the Aztec sun god, Tonatiuh. Add features including a tongue and yellow hair.

Draw a sun ray pattern. The Aztecs would use geometric shapes such as triangles or rectangles.

The Aztec sunstone has carvings of animals such as jaguars and snakes. There are also intricate geometric patterns.

Colour a repeating pattern around the edge of the plate.



Template