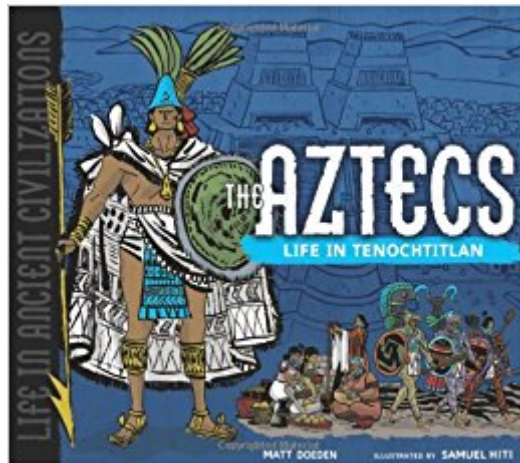


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The Aztecs: Life In Tenochtitlan (Life In Ancient Civilizations)



Synopsis

Did you know that the Aztecs were one of the first cultures to make a chocolate drink? Did you know that they made clothing from cactus fibers? Did you know that they sacrificed humans to please their gods? The Aztecs lived in the great city of Tenochtitlan, located in modern-day Mexico, from about 1325 to 1521. Read on to find out more about this fascinating culture.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 610L (What's this?)

Series: Life in Ancient Civilizations

Library Binding: 48 pages

Publisher: Millbrook Press (August 1, 2009)

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,582,386 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Mexico #179 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Aztec #227 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

Matt Doeden is a writer and editor who lives in New Prague, Minnesota. After earning degrees in journalism and psychology from Minnesota State University-Mankato, he began his career as a sports writer. Since then, he's spent nearly a decade writing and editing high-interest nonfiction, with more than fifty titles to his name on topics that range from extreme sports to military equipment to graphic novels. His titles include Tiger Woods, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Lance Armstrong, Crazy Cars and Lowriders.

Perfect for the third grade classroom! It has enough content to provide a good overview of the Aztecs, yet the sentence structure is simple and clear. Excellent as an introduction.

If you were an Aztec child living in ancient Tenochtitlan, you would be expected to be "well behaved" or you would be punished. If you take a close look at one of the pictures in this book, the consequences don't look pretty. The Aztecs, who called themselves "Mexica," were divided into two classes, the nobles and the commoners. They did have slaves that were captured during war time. Of course there were some major differences between classes and, in some cases, if the "rules" were violated it could result in death. For example only nobles could have a chocolate drink. They ate a variety of foods such as popcorn, peanuts, fruit, vegetables (maize or corn was their most important food), fish, waterbirds and the Aztecs have been suspected for raising dogs as a food source. All children went to school and the boys learned a lot about war because it was "a big part of Aztec life" and every man was expected to fight when needed. You will learn about the Aztec weaponry, their unusual way of dressing for war, their religion, their two hundred gods, Huitzilopochtli the sun god, Tlaloc, the rain god, the Great Temple, their many festivals, their human sacrifices (including children), their marketplace, the fact that cacao beans were used as currency, the tlatoani (emperor), their writing, their two calendars, their aqueducts, their chinampa or "floating farms" and much more! This is a very nice introduction to the Aztec history and culture in ancient Tenochtitlan. The writing was very engaging and it was obviously this work was quite well researched. It had a nice flow to it and I found out many interesting and unusual facts I was unaware of. The combination of colorful graphic style illustration and a few photographs gave it a very appealing, ancient look. I liked the unusual overlay of the ancient Tenochtitlan Great Temple over an illustration of modern day Mexico City. In the back of the book is an index, a glossary, a timeline (1325-1987), a pronunciation guide, and additional recommended book and website resources. Did you know that a mere commoner could be killed if he built a two-level house? There are some amazing facts in this book!

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