

## Knowledge Check

### Matching

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 1. _____ | a. led the Spanish invaders              |
| 2. _____ | b. Inca invention used for counting      |
| 3. _____ | c. first Inca, according to an Inca myth |
| 4. _____ | d. conquered the Incas                   |
| 5. _____ | e. capital of the Inca Empire            |

### Multiple Choice

6. Who ruled the Incas from 1438 to 1471?
- Pachacutec
  - Pizarro
  - Capac
  - Cuzco
7. What Inca king was killed in 1533 by the Spanish invaders?
- Pachacutec
  - Pizarro
  - Atahualpa
  - Capac

### Did You Know?

The Incas were the first people to grow potatoes. Spanish explorers introduced the vegetable to Europe.



### Constructed Response

Describe two innovative farming methods used by the Incas. Use details from the selection to support your answer.

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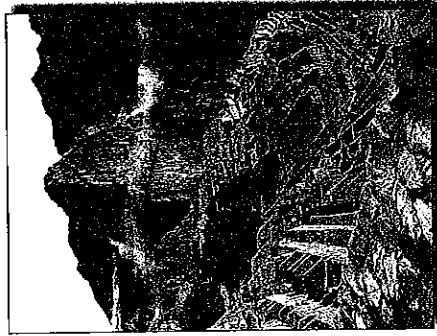
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## The Inca Civilization: Close-Up



Machu Picchu

The early history of the Incas is a mystery. Since the Incas never developed a system of writing, we must rely on the writings of their **Spanish** conquerors for any early Inca history. We can also study artifacts of the ancient cities for clues to the early Incas' story.

We do know some Inca myths. One early story is that the sun god created the first Inca, **Manco Capac**, and his sister. The god told them to go and teach other Indians. They went into the wilderness to establish a city. They named their city **Cuzco**, and it became the capital of the Inca Empire.

The Incas probably began as one of the many small tribes of the Andes Mountains. At its peak, the Inca Empire spread through parts of what are now Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia, and Argentina. The Inca land included desert, fertile valleys, some rain forests, and the Andes Mountains.

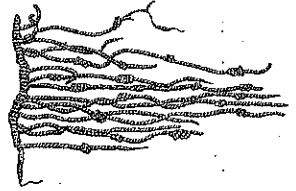
The Incas conquered most of their territory under the leadership of Pachacutec, who ruled from 1438 to 1471. The Incas crushed most of the other tribes during brutal fighting.

The Inca Empire was so large that a system of roads was built that stretched over 12,000 miles (19,312 km). The Incas did not use wheeled vehicles on their roads. The great road system was for pedestrians. Only the road system of the ancient Romans was equal to that of the Incas.

### Interesting Facts

- The Incas developed terrace farming. They cut terraces into the steep sides of the mountains to create more farmland. They also dug irrigation systems to bring water from the mountain streams to the terraces. Many of the Inca roads, terraces, and irrigation ditches are still in use today.
- The llama was an important animal for the Incas. They tamed the llama and used it for transportation of people and materials. The llama also provided the Incas with wool and food.
- The Incas developed a counting system that used a base of ten. They used a **quipu** to remember the numbers. The quipu had a main cord about two feet long. Many colored strings were tied to the main cord. Each string had knots tied in it. The color of the strings and the distance between the knots had special meaning.

The Inca civilization was at its peak when the Spanish arrived. **Francisco Pizarro** led the Spanish invaders against the Incas. After a series of fierce battles, the Spanish defeated the Inca king, Atahualpa, and in 1533 he was killed. The descendants of the Incas continued to live under the rule of the Spanish until the various countries in which they lived became independent.





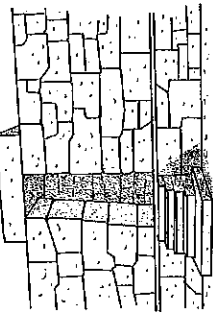
Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Arts and Entertainment

### Inca Arts

The Inca empire once stretched along South America's west coast, from the northern border of modern Ecuador to the middle of Chile. The Incas had a practical view of art. The arts they created had a function in everyday life.

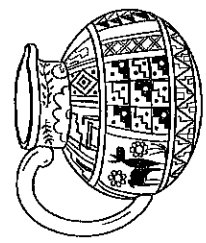
### Architecture



The Incas were master stone builders. Buildings were made with huge stones that were carved to fit together perfectly. In fact, the stones fit so tightly that not even a thin knife could be squeezed between them. This made the buildings very stable in the frequent earthquakes that occurred in that area. The stones that the Incas used sometimes weighed up to several tons and often had to be moved some distance to the construction site. No one is really sure how they did that. They may have used a system of logs and ramps similar to those used by the Egyptians to build the pyramids. The Incas also used stone to build step-like terraces on the steep mountainsides. The terraces made flat areas for growing crops and kept the soil from washing down the hills when it rained.

### Pottery

The Incas did not make their pots on a turning wheel. Instead, they shaped them by hand or used molds. They decorated their pots with pictures of animals, such as birds, fish, butterflies, and llamas, as well as flowers and peppers. They also used patterns of squares, diamonds, triangles, or other geometric shapes. Each village or region was often known for a specific pattern. The Incas usually painted their pots in red, black, yellow, or white.



### Metalwork

The Incas also made many objects from gold and silver. However, very few Inca metal pieces survived. When the Spanish invaded Inca lands in the 1500s, the conquistadors took many of these items. Rather than valuing the metalwork as art, the Spanish melted it down to make coins, which were then shipped back to Spain.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Arts and Entertainment

### Inca Arts

A. Use the information on the other page to complete the sentences.

1. The Incas' main building material was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Inca buildings were strong enough to withstand \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Incas may have moved stones in much the same way as the \_\_\_\_\_ did.
4. Incas built stone \_\_\_\_\_ for mountainside farming.
5. Inca pots were decorated with \_\_\_\_\_ shapes.
6. Inca villages were often known for using specific \_\_\_\_\_ to decorate their pottery.
7. Very few pieces of Inca \_\_\_\_\_ survived the Spanish invasion.

B. Use the information on the other page to help you create a design for the Inca pot. Color your design with traditional Inca colors.

