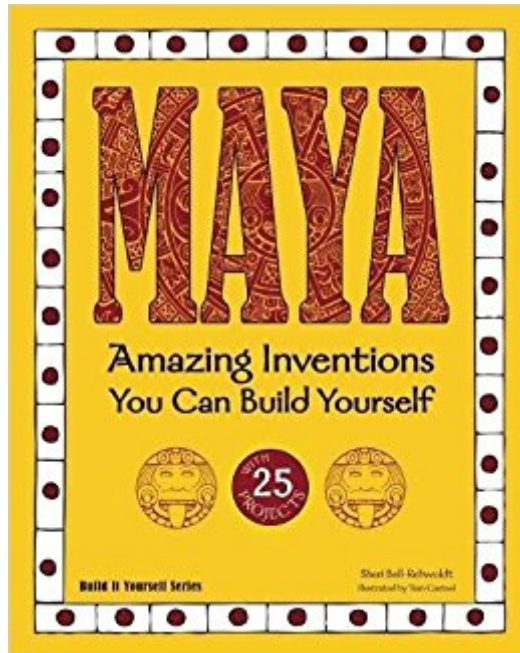


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# MAYA: Amazing Inventions You Can Build Yourself (Build It Yourself)



## Synopsis

Revised for 2012 *Maya: Amazing Inventions You Can Build Yourself* introduces readers ages 9&#150;12 to the world of the ancient Maya, the most advanced and mysterious civilization of the New World. From ceremonial masks to hieroglyphics, and calendars to musical instruments, *Maya: Amazing Inventions You Can Build Yourself* gives readers a chance to experience how the Maya lived, cooked, worshipped, entertained themselves, and interacted with their neighbors through hands on building projects that use common household supplies.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1050 (What's this?)

Series: Build It Yourself

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Nomad Press; 2 edition (June 12, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1936749602

ISBN-13: 978-1936749607

Product Dimensions: 8 x 10 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 2.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,170,428 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Central & South America](#) #186 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico](#) #249 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Inventions & Inventors](#)

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

KLIATT&#147;This would be a great addition to a unit on Central American history for upper elementary, middle school and junior high students.Âçâ –Â•Calliope Magazine&#147;Skillfully lends historical facts with detailed instructions for replicating the masks, hieroglyphs, calendars, and musical instruments fashioned by the ancient Maya.

Revised for 2012 *Maya: Amazing Inventions You Can Build Yourself* introduces readers ages 9&#150;12 to the world of the ancient Maya, the most advanced and mysterious civilization of the

New World. From ceremonial masks to hieroglyphics, and calendars to musical instruments, *Maya: Amazing Inventions You Can Build Yourself* gives readers a chance to experience how the Maya lived, cooked, worshipped, entertained themselves, and interacted with their neighbors through hands on building projects that use common household supplies. *Maya* meets common core state standards in language arts for reading informational text and literary nonfiction. Guided Reading Levels and Lexile measurements indicate grade level and text complexity.

I reviewed this book for my summer camp craft activities. It is exactly what I was looking for and can't wait to try it with the kids.

I work in the Education Department of a museum, and one of my biggest frustrations is having to constantly undo the misconceptions that popular culture instills in our kids and visitors, especially about Mesoamerican peoples. (You'd be surprised by how many learners think the Maya, Inca, and Aztec were all part of the same blended culture...But then, opening eyes is what I get paid to do, after all!) The publicist's image choice for the cover of this book is a good example of what I mean. The title announces it's a book about the Maya, yet someone has chosen to put the AZTEC sun-stone (also called 'Calendar Stone') as the first illustration we see. To an alert teacher, this raises some questions about what the accuracy of the inside content could be, much like a book about horses would if the cover depicts penguins. The Maya and Aztec are very different culture groups with different languages, geographic origins, and histories, though they indeed share just a few commonalities common to many Mesoamerican peoples (worship of a feathered-serpent deity, calendars with repeating 52-year cycles). To a stickler like myself, I think the book would benefit from a more accurate title such as "Mesoamerican Inventions", or "Aztec & Maya Inventions", or perhaps a different, more-recognizable Maya image, like the jade mask of Pacal. Parents and teachers are always looking for reliable sources of information. I suggest an educational activity would be to find a topic in the book that particularly engages the child, then compare the information together online at a dedicated academic site like [...] or [...] to learn about the latest opinions from the scholars. Mesoamerican studies is a field where new information is coming out every day, and it's ok to teach that what we thought we knew before has to be updated in light of new information!

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