

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Blizzard Bag Fifth Grade - Day 1

	<b>Grade 5 Blizzard Bag Day 1</b>
Reading	Read the article, “Aztecs, Incas, and Mayans: The Aztec Empire.” Reread the first paragraph and explain the author’s purpose for that paragraph.
Writing and Social Studies	Using evidence from the text, explain two reasons why canals were important to the Aztecs.

## **Aztecs, Incas, and Mayans**

### **The Aztec Empire**

Mexico City, the capital city of Mexico, has a rich history. Before the President's Palace was built, there was the Palace of Montezuma. Montezuma was a great emperor<sup>1</sup> of warrior Indians called the Aztecs. Before a Catholic cathedral was built for Spaniards to use for worship, a huge Aztec temple stood in its place. Before it was the capital of Mexico, Mexico City was Tenochtitlan, the center of the Aztec Empire.

To picture Tenochtitlan at its greatest, imagine an intricate<sup>2</sup> system of canals that served as roads for boats. The Aztecs' land was partly underwater, so the people built little islands. They could channel water in between these islands. These channels of water, or canals, made the land dry enough to be the foundation of the city. Sidewalks made of stone lined the canals to give pedestrians a way to travel. There were neighborhoods throughout the city. Each had its own temple, school, land, and council for government.

More than 200,000 people walked about Tenochtitlan every day. Some lived in the city's neighborhoods. Others came from the countryside to the bustling<sup>3</sup> marketplace to trade their goods. When the Spanish first saw Tenochtitlan in 1519, it may have been one of the biggest cities in the world. Though most Mexicans speak Spanish today, more than one million still speak the native Aztec language, Nahuatl, as their primary<sup>4</sup> language. In fact, even the word "Mexico" comes from the Aztec word "Mexica." The Aztecs called themselves "Mexica" people.

At the heart of the Aztec civilization were nature and natural forces. This was the Aztecs' religion. Gods were very important to the Aztecs because they represented things like the sun and rain, which is what made the crops grow. As part of their religion, Aztecs were fierce warriors. During battle they would

capture natives from other tribes. Often, these captives would be **sacrificed**<sup>5</sup> at temples. The Aztecs thought that the gods needed human sacrifices to remain happy.

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<sup>1</sup> **emperor** – a king or ruler

<sup>2</sup> **intricate** – having many parts, complicated

<sup>3</sup> **bustling** – busy

<sup>4</sup> **primary** – main or first

## Day 1 - Math

1. A recipe for salad dressing uses  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup of olive oil and  $\frac{1}{6}$  cup of balsamic vinegar. How many cups of salad dressing will this make? Write an equation to represent your thinking.

2. If this recipe makes 6 servings, how much dressing would there be in one serving? Write an equation to represent your thinking.

3. Lori measured the growth of a sunflower. The first week, it grew  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches. During week 2, it grew  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The third week, the sunflower grew  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches. How much did the sunflower grow in 3 weeks? Explain your thinking.

4. A worker has carpeted  $8\frac{11}{12}$  feet of a hallway. The hallway is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  feet long. How many feet of the hallway still need carpet?

Go to Khan Academy and practice solving mixed number problems.

[http://www.khanacademy.org/math/cc-fifth-grade-math/cc-5th-fractions-topic/cc-5th-addsub-frac-word-problems/e/adding\\_subtracting\\_mixed\\_numbers\\_1](http://www.khanacademy.org/math/cc-fifth-grade-math/cc-5th-fractions-topic/cc-5th-addsub-frac-word-problems/e/adding_subtracting_mixed_numbers_1)

Optional:

Log on to Fastt Math and work for 15 minutes. Use the Fastt Math link on the HCSD eSchool page:

<http://www.hilliardschools.org/elem/eschool.cfm?ID=Math&Pages=2>

## Day 1 – Science

**Learning Target:** *Construct knowledge and understanding in all science content areas through inquiry.*

**Web link and Directions:**

**Scientist Mini-Research:**

Watch 3 videos of your choice on Dragonfly TV. Give a summary of each one. Which one interested you the most? Explain why.

<http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/scientists/>

**What to bring back to school:** your summary and personal reflection. This can be written or digital.