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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Definition: Highlight Key Terms** | **Example/Picture** |
| **1. Olmec** | The 1st civilization known for sculpting huge stone heads. |  |
| **2. Maya** | The 2nd civilization known for creating the 365 calendar and using the number zero. |  |
| **4. Aztec** | The 3rd civilization known for being fierce warriors. Were defeated by Spanish conquistadors. |  |
| **3. Inca** | The 4th civilization known for terrace farming and building roads used for trading. |  |
| **3. empire** | A political system in which people or lands are controlled by one ruler |  |
| **6. conquistador** | Spanish word for “Conqueror” |  |
| **7. Moctezuma II** | Aztec emperor. Killed by conquistadors that took him prisoner. |  |
| **8. isthmus** | Strip of land that connects two landmasses |  |
| **9. maize** | Corn |  |
| **10. Yucatan Peninsula** | An area of land in Central America where the Mayan civilization settled. |  |
| **11. observatories** | Buildings from which people could study the sky |  |
| **12. Hernan Cortes** | Spanish Conquistador that conquered the Aztec Empire |  |
| **13. Pachacuti** | Ruled the Inca civilization in the mid-1400’s. He worked to expand Inca territory. |  |
| **14. Andes Mountains** | A mountain range located on South America’s west coast and extending the full length of the continent. |  |
| **15. terrace farming** | Stone walls used to shape hillsides into flat leveled land that looked like a staircase. |  |

**Unit 15 Ancient Mesoamerica Vocabulary Foldable**

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