

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



Subject: **History**

Topic: Benin

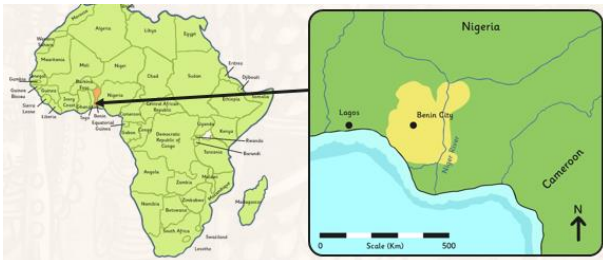
Year: 5

## What should I already know?

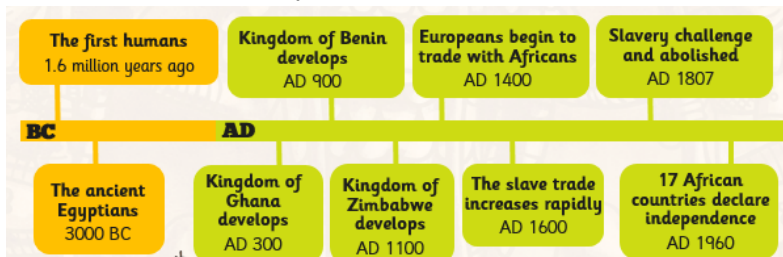
- Place different periods on a timeline (Ancient Egypt, Romans, Greeks, Mayans, Pre-Historic Britain).
- Africa is a continent with many countries in- the equator runs through Africa.
- Discuss differences between now and the past.
- Understand some time scales and know that Ancient times were a lot longer ago than other periods in history.

## What am I going to learn?

- The ancient Kingdom of Benin was in what is now Nigeria. Modern Benin is a country next to Nigeria:



- The Kingdom of Benin has its roots as far back as 2000 years ago.
- A timeline to show the period of Benin:



- Ancient Egypt and Benin Kingdom are both African civilisations.
- The people believed in many gods and goddesses.
- In ancient Benin, religious beliefs were centred around rituals and ceremonies, and a Creator God name Osanobua.
- The Benin people made human sacrifices.
- The Benin people were animists. This meant that they believed that animals and objects had souls and spirits.
- The Benin people believed that the head was the most important part of a person. People thought that this was where intelligence was found.
- Benin's history was passed down through storytellers.
- Britain was responsible for bringing the Kingdom of Benin to an end.



## Vocabulary

- **Ceremony** - A formal religious or public occasion, especially one celebrating a particular event, achievement, or anniversary.
- **Civilisation** - A society or group of people or the process of achieving a higher state of social development.
- **Dynasty** - A line of hereditary rulers of a country.
- **Eweka** - The first **Oba**/ruler of Benin.
- **Human sacrifices** - The act of killing one or more humans as part of a ritual, usually intended to please or appease gods, spirits or the dead ancestors.
- **Igodomigodo** - The historical first name of the now Benin Empire.
- **Oba/Ogosi** - Benin was ruled by a series of kings, known as **Ogisos**, which means 'rulers of the sky'.
- **Owodo** - The last ruler/king.
- **Pearl** - A pearl is a hard, glistening object produced within the soft tissue of a living shell animal.
- **River Niger** - The Niger River is the main river of western Africa. It is over 4180 km (2500 miles) long.
- **Rituals** - A religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order.
- **Reincarnated** - Having been reborn in another body.
- **Slavery** - A condition of having to work very hard without proper remuneration or appreciation.
- **Yoruba** - An ethnic group that inhabits western Africa, mainly Nigeria, Benin, Togo and part of Ghana.

## Useful Websites

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpvckqt/articles/z3n7mp3#:~:text=The%20kingdom%20of%20Benin%20began,and%20built%20up%20an%20empire.>

<https://kids.kiddle.co/Benin>

<https://africa.mrdonn.org/benin.html>