Development of Maya Agriculture

Presented by Gian Vasquez

SJC
Objectives

• Explain in a paragraph why Agriculture began.
• List at least three changes brought about by agriculture
Hunter gatherers?? What is really meant by that?

• a member of a nomadic people who live chiefly by hunting, fishing, and harvesting wild food.

• All civilizations first started from hunter gathering
They depended on?

- In the Paleo Indian period on Big animals
- In the Archaic period on plants and small animals
- Maya: everything shifted to Agriculture!!
If they were hunter gatherers why did they change?

- Severe climatic changes!
- Adapting to the environment
- Began to be sedentary and their population grew
They turned to agriculture? What is really agriculture?

• The practice of cultivating and farming animals, food and other life forms that are used to sustain life.
How did agriculture begin?

• Through accident

• Trial and error

• Experimentation
Wild seeds were abundant and inexhaustible
When did agriculture begin?

- It began from the archaic period when people began to depend on plants
- was the backbone to the development of civilization
How did agriculture impact life?

- Developed a sedentary life ➔ more people ➔ more people required more food ➔ more intensive agriculture
Maya Agricultural Evolution

Hunting- deer, tapir, birds, rabbits, monkey

Animal husbandry- dogs, turkeys, Muscovy ducks, doves

Agriculture- maize, beans, squash, cacao, chilli (arboriculture was also practiced; cultivation of trees: ramon-bread nut, cacao)