

# Gods and Mythology

Religion was very important to the Mayan civilization. The Maya worshiped many nature gods.

- The main Maya god was **Itzamna**, the god of fire who created the Earth. His name means "lizard house." Itzamna ruled heaven, day, and night. The Maya believed that the calendar and writing was a gift to them from Itzamna.
- **Kukulkan** was the main god of the Itza people in the later part of the Maya civilization. His name means "feathered serpent." He was a powerful snake god who is usually drawn to resemble a dragon.
- The god of storms, wind, and fire was called **Bolon Tzacab**, which means "one leg." He was also known as Huracan (similar to our word for hurricane). According to Maya mythology, he brought a great flood when the Maya angered the gods.
- **Chaac** was the god of rain and lightning. He was pictured with a lightning axe that he used to strike the clouds and create rain and storms.

**DIRECTIONS:** Choose one of the gods above. Write the god's name on the line. Draw a picture of the god.

