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| **Civilization** | **Dates of Empire** | **Locations** | **Cultural Description** |
| Aztec Empire | 1200’s – 1500’s | \*central valley of Mexico  \*built the great capital city of Tenochtitlan | \*warlike conquerors  \*empire of about 5 million  \*government collected taxes from conquered people  \*polytheistic  \*evidence of religion and human sacrifice |
| Maya Empire | 200 – 800 A.D. | \*parts of present day Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras | \*highly valued religion, art and learning  \*priests were most respected members of society  \*invented systems of math, writing and the calendar |
| Inca Empire | 1438 – 1532 | \*along the west coast of South America where the Andes Mountains are located | \*highly organized government  \*farmed in the mountains  \*government leaders were viewed as a god  \*expert builders  \*people were required to perform public service |