Name: _____

Date: _____

Mezquita of Cordoba

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1. The Mezquita of Córdoba is the perfect example of a palimpsest. This term is derived from the study of ancient documents, where it was discovered that a single sheet of paper might be reused over and over again. This resulted in layers of text still being visible to the trained eye. In the same way, the Mezquita has layers of history and use. Four cultures utilized this site and structure. Identify and put them in their correct chronological order:

_____

_____

_____

_____

How old is the Mezquita?

Enter the current year in the box and subtract the date Mezquita was started to find out how old it is!

- 784

TREASURE HUNT!

Find these three objects

X

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Mezquita of Cordoba

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2. Courtyards have been used through the Mediterranean to help cool buildings. Explore the courtyard of the Mezquita and think of other courtyards you may have visited. Besides cooling, what features of a courtyard do you find to be most attractive or useful?

Fascinating Fact

The design of the Mezquita courtyard is the oldest existing garden design in the world. It is over 900 years old!

3. Based on your answer in the previous question, do you think a courtyard be useful where you lived? Why or why not?

4. There are plenty of patterns in the Mezquita. The Muslim Moorish designers particularly liked geometric patterns. In the box on the left, draw your favorite pattern that you found in the Mezquita. In the box on the right, draw your own geometric pattern.