Students create a personal Coat of Arms based on the traditional colors & symbols of Middle Ages heraldry.
This assignment includes the following:

- Detailed Assignment Sheet with a list of traditional symbols & their meanings
- Brainstorming worksheet
- Coat of Arms Template
- Paragraph worksheet

**Teacher Ideas / Suggestions**

This is a fun activity for students to do during a Middle Ages Unit or even as a “Back To School” project. It’s important to introduce the idea of a Coat of Arms to the students by showing them some examples. Find the Coat of Arms for your school, community, state, province and country. Talk about the symbols used in each Coat of Arms and their importance and significance. A quick “Google” search will yield all sorts of examples of Coats of Arms to show your students.

This project is also a great way to introduce some new vocabulary to students. There are some great new words to share with students on the assignment sheet as they relate to the different symbols. A quick lesson on perseverance, industriousness, serenity, and fortitude might be helpful before students get started. (I put the difficult words and their definitions on the board while students are working.)

Students love to see what others in their class have come up with and I often make a display of their work—they look fabulous up on the wall!

Have fun!

~Addie
In the Middle Ages, individuals were identified by their Coat of Arms. As they were used on the battlefield to identify a person’s friends and foes, they were often in the shape of a shield. The symbols used on coats of arms were chosen carefully to represent an individual or an entire family. The study of the symbols, colors and patterns used in Coats of Arms is known as heraldry.

**Design your own Coat of Arms**

Create your own **COAT of ARMS** based on your hobbies, personality, character and family. Read through the list of colors, animals and symbols shown below—which represent you? Can you think of more animals or symbols that you could use on your Coat of Arms?

**Include the following information on your own Coat of Arms.**

1. A symbol / picture to represent an important place.
2. A symbol / picture to represent a hobby / activity
3. An animal that represents you
4. Any other symbol or picture that represents you.
5. Include a Personal Motto (words or a phrase that represent you) at the top

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**Heraldic Colors**

- Yellow or Gold - Generosity
- White / Silver - Peace & Sincerity
- Black - Constancy & Grief
- Blue - Loyalty & Truthfulness
- Red - Military Fortitude
- Green - Hope, Joy & Loyalty
- Purple - Sovereignty & Justice

**Heraldic Animals**

- Bear - Protectiveness
- Bee - Industriousness
- Camel - Perseverance
- Dog - Loyalty
- Dragon - Defender of Treasure
- Eagle - Leadership & Decisiveness
- Falcon or Hawk - Eagerness
- Fox - Cleverness
- Griffin (part eagle, part lion) - Bravery
- Horse - Readiness to Serve
- Lion - Courage
- Pelican - Generosity & Devotion
- Raven - Constancy
- Snake - Ambition
- Elk or Deer - Peace & Harmony
- Tiger - Fierceness & Valor
- Unicorn - Extreme courage
- Wolf - Constant Vigilance

**Heraldic Symbols**

- Axe - Dutiful
- Crescent - Enlightenment
- Crosses - Christian sentiments
- Crown - Authority
- Fire - Enthusiasm
- Flaming Heart - Passion
- Hand - Faith & Justice
- Heart - Sincerity
- Horns & Antlers - Fortitude
- Lightning - Decisiveness
- Moon - Serenity
- Oyster Shell - Traveler
- Ring - Fidelity
- Scepter - Justice
- Star - Nobility
- Sun - Glory
- Sword - Warlike
- Castle - Protectiveness

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Personal Coat of Arms</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What are some important places for you? What symbols represent these places?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What are your favorite hobbies / activities? What symbols represent these activities?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is an animal that represents you? Why?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What else is important to you and should be represented in your Coat of Arms? What color best represents you?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ideas for a Personal Motto.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Write a paragraph to explain the key points of your Personal Coat of Arms. Be sure to explain each element of your design and why you chose it.
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** This product is also part of my Middle Ages Activity Pack. Includes 6 unique and engaging lessons related to the Middle Ages and feudal society.

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