The Tudors

Learning Objective:
To be able to use art to create a coat of arms.

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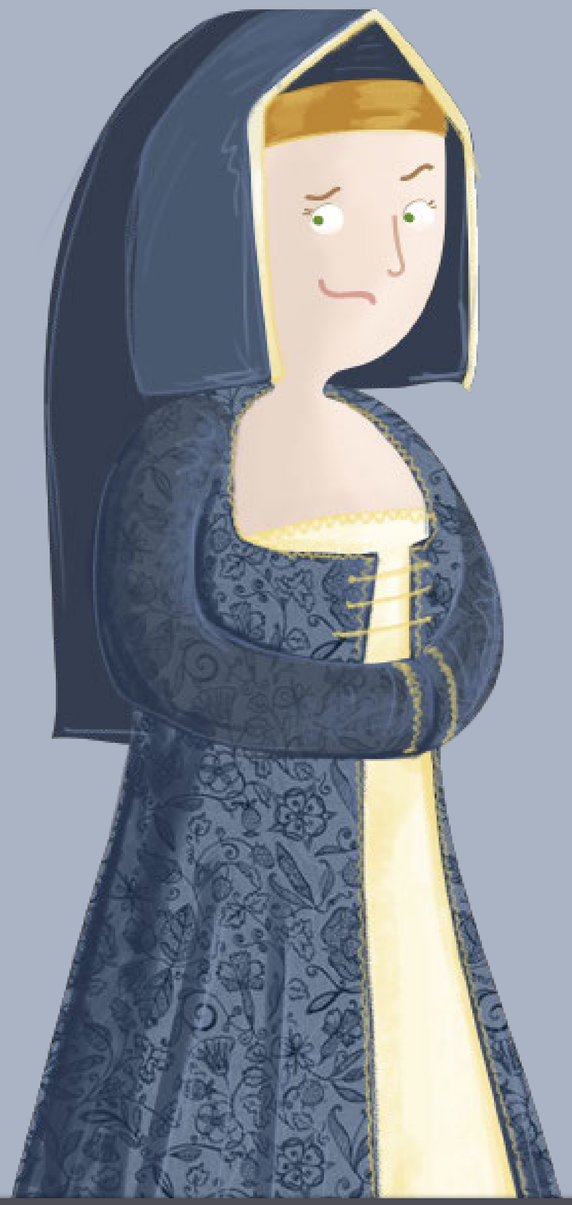

Do you know what a coat of arms is and what it is for?

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A coat of arms is a unique design that identifies a family, individual or organisation. Coats of arms were originally used in battle so that soldiers could identify other people on their side. They would be drawn on shields, flags and held up high on poles so that people could be easily identified. Eventually, all important families had their own coats of arms.



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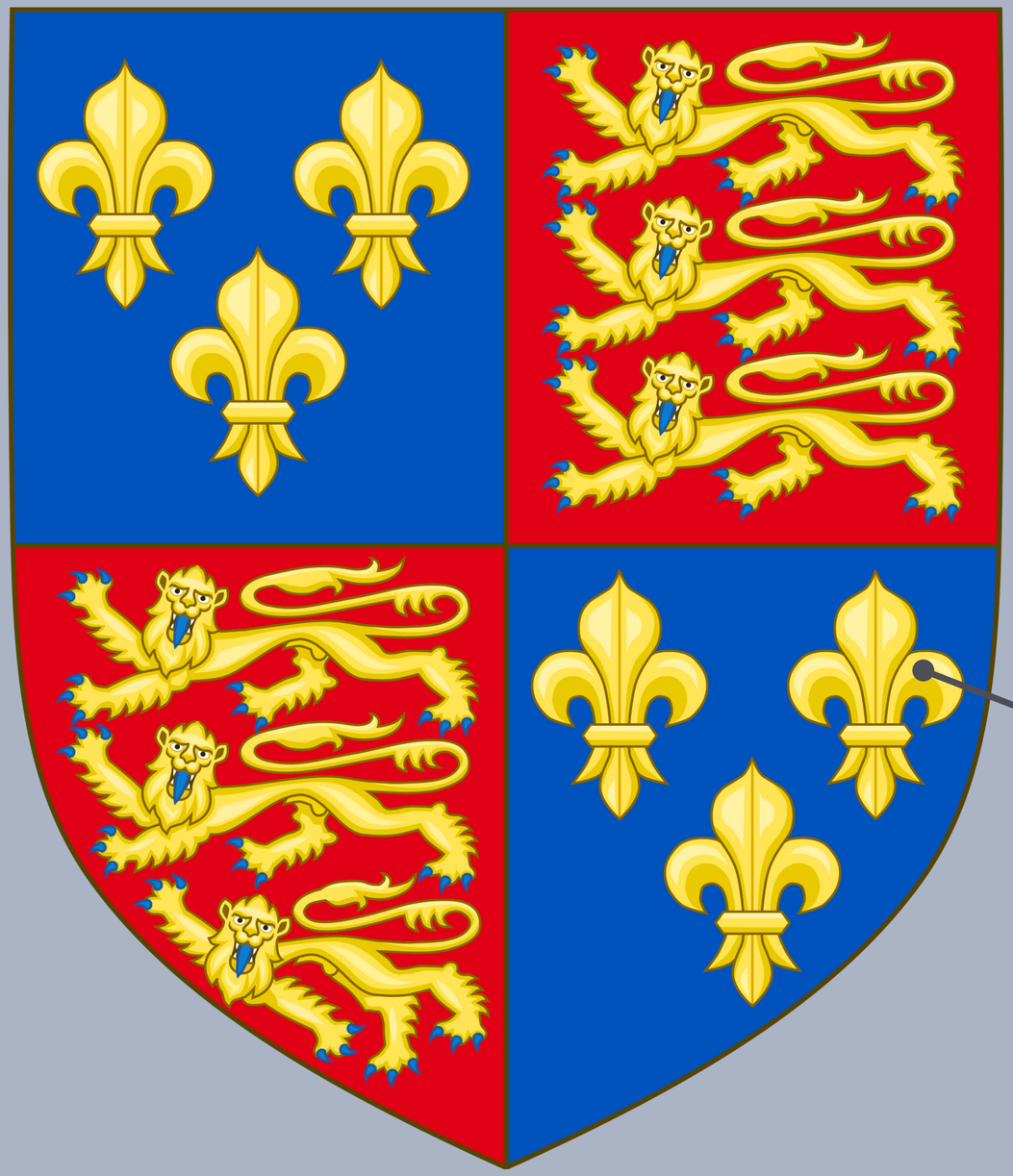


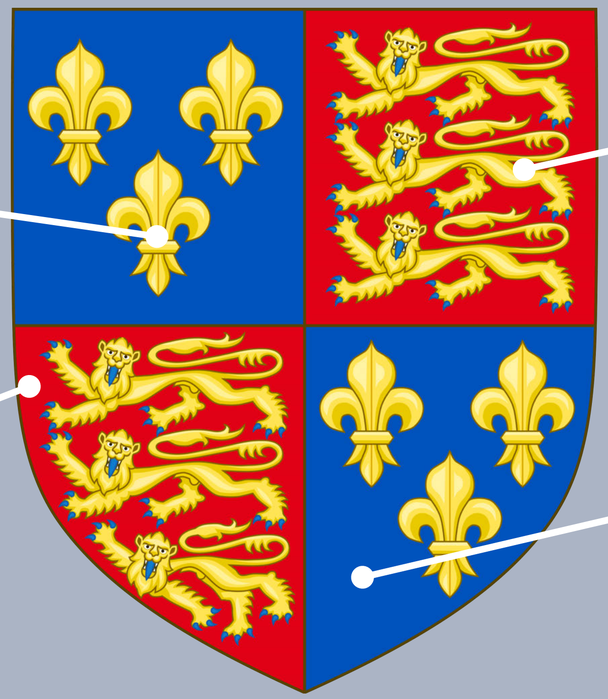
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Later_Plantagenet_and_Tudor_arms#/media/File:Royal_Arms_of_England_(1399-1603).svg

This is the Tudor coat of arms. What do you think the lions and fleurs-de-lis symbolise?

fleur-de-lis



All coats of arms have symbols that represent the things the family want to portray. In the Tudor coat of arms, the fleur-de-lis symbolises purity and light, while the lion represents bravery and strength. The colours of a coat of arms are also important. Red represents strength in battle and blue represents truth and loyalty.



purity and light

bravery and strength

strength in battle

truth and loyalty

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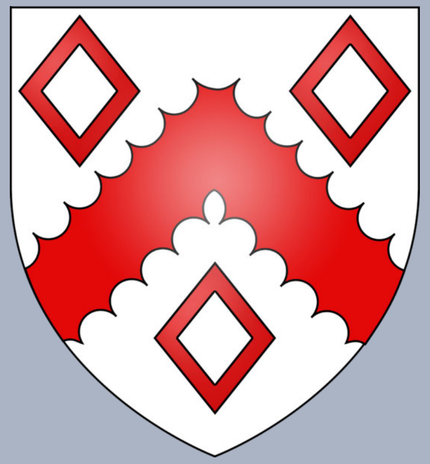
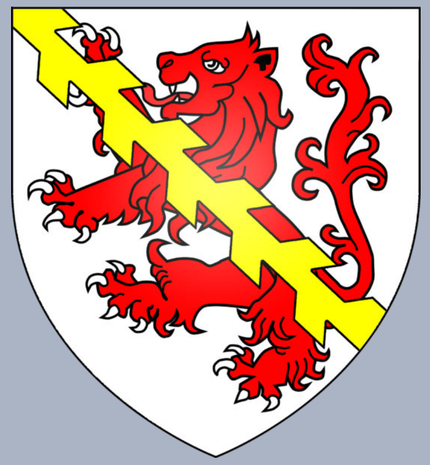
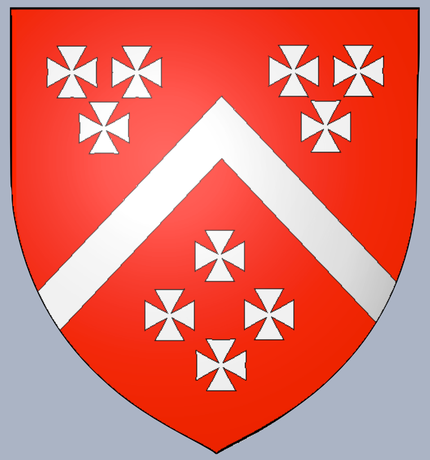
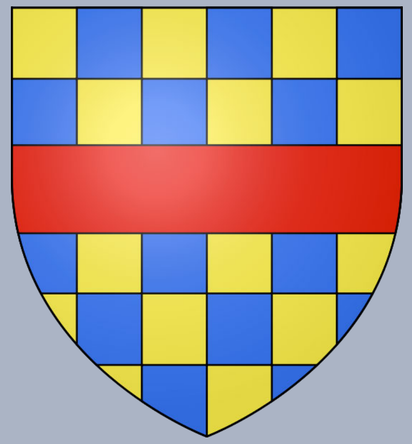
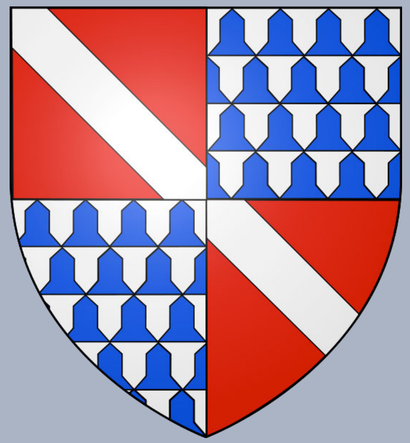
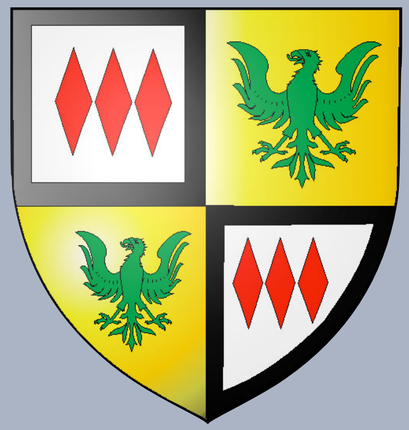
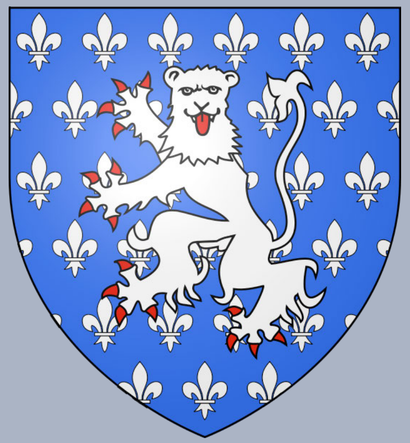





All coats of arms have different designs with lots of different symbols and colours. Let's find out what some of them mean...

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White or silver	Purity and light
Yellow or gold	Generosity
Red	Strength in battle
Green	Joy and hope
Blue	Truth and loyalty
Black	Grief and sadness
Purple	Royalty and justice
Orange	Ambition

Here's what each of these colours symbolises. Which of these would you choose for your own coat of arms? Why?



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An anchor symbolises:

Hope and steadfastness



An arrow symbolises:

Ready for battle



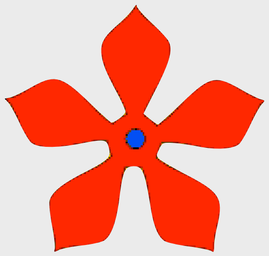
A ring symbolises:

Faithfulness



A cinquefoil symbolises:

Hope and joy



A bear symbolises:

Protection of your family



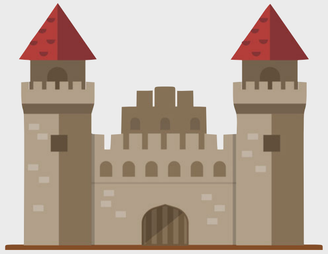
A bee symbolises:

Hard work



A castle symbolises:

Safety and protection



A cross symbolises:

Faith in God



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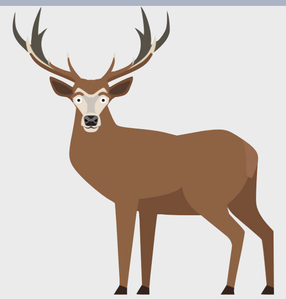
A daffodil symbolises:

Sunshine and respect



A deer symbolises:

Peace, not fighting unless provoked



A dragon symbolises:

Defender of treasure



A falcon symbolises:

Not stopping until you reach your goal



A griffin symbolises:

Death-defying bravery



A harp symbolises:

Person of fair judgement



A heart symbolises:

Charity and love towards others



A lightning bolt symbolises:

Power and speed



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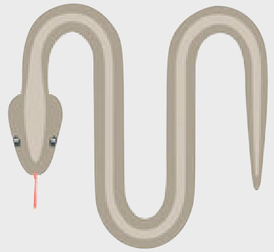
A snake symbolises:

Wisdom



A star symbolises:

A noble person, excellence

A winged horse symbolises:

Poetic and full of inspiration



A unicorn symbolises:

Extreme courage and strength



A sword symbolises:

Justice, honour in battle



Which of these symbols would you choose for your own coat of arms? Why?



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Today you will be designing your own coat of arms to reflect who you are. How do you think we could do this?

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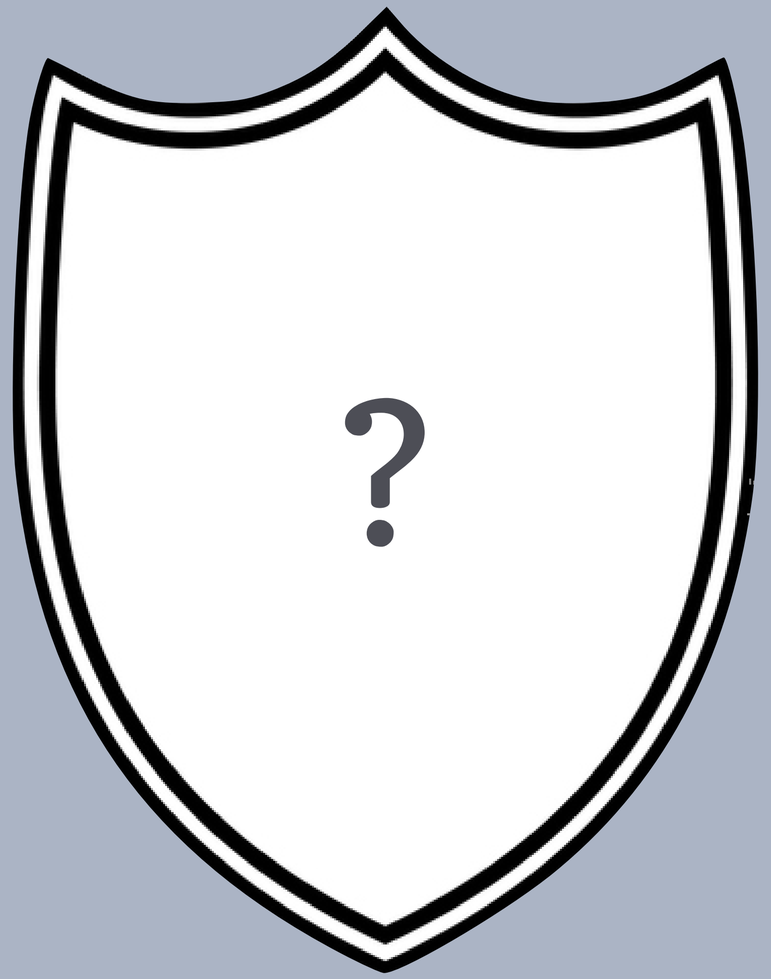
The first thing you will need to do is to choose which colours and symbols you want to use to represent yourself.

You then need to plan out your coat of arms. Decide where you want each colour and symbol to go.



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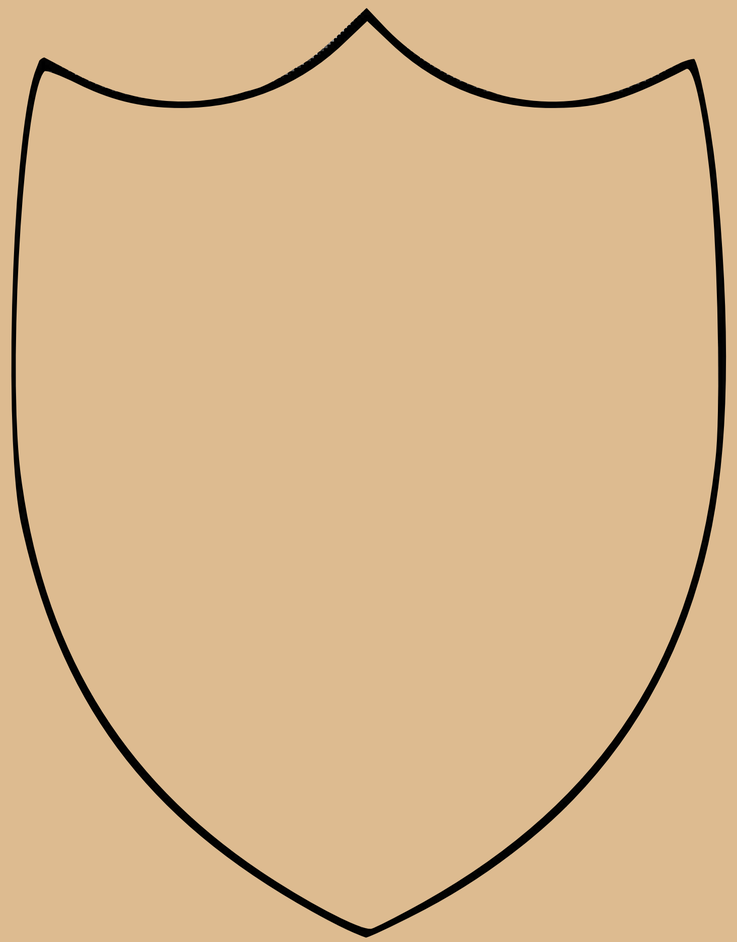
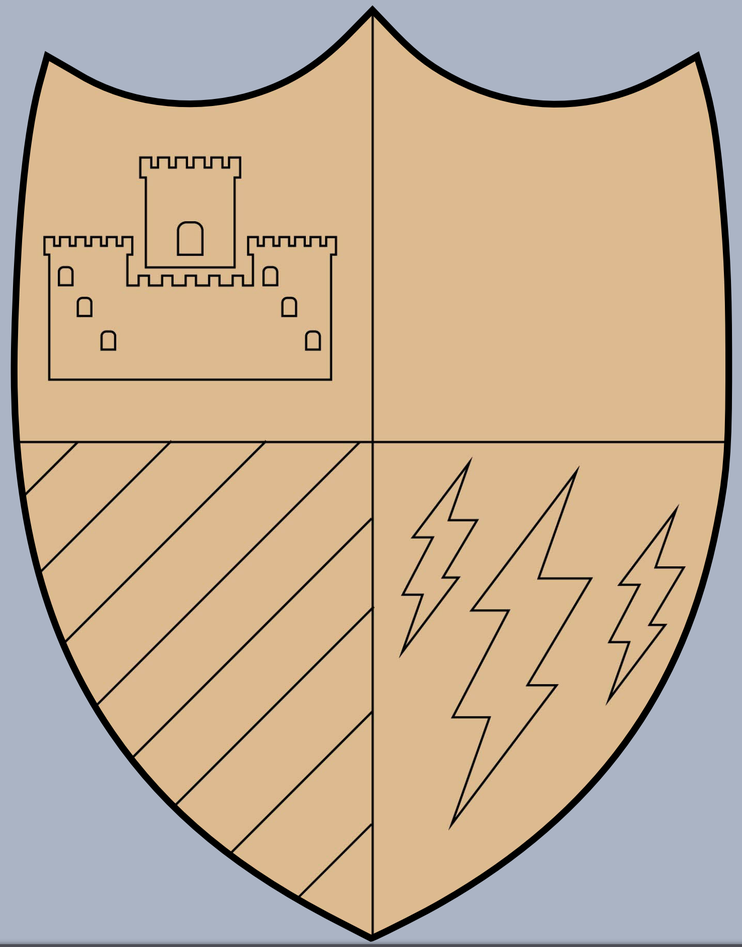
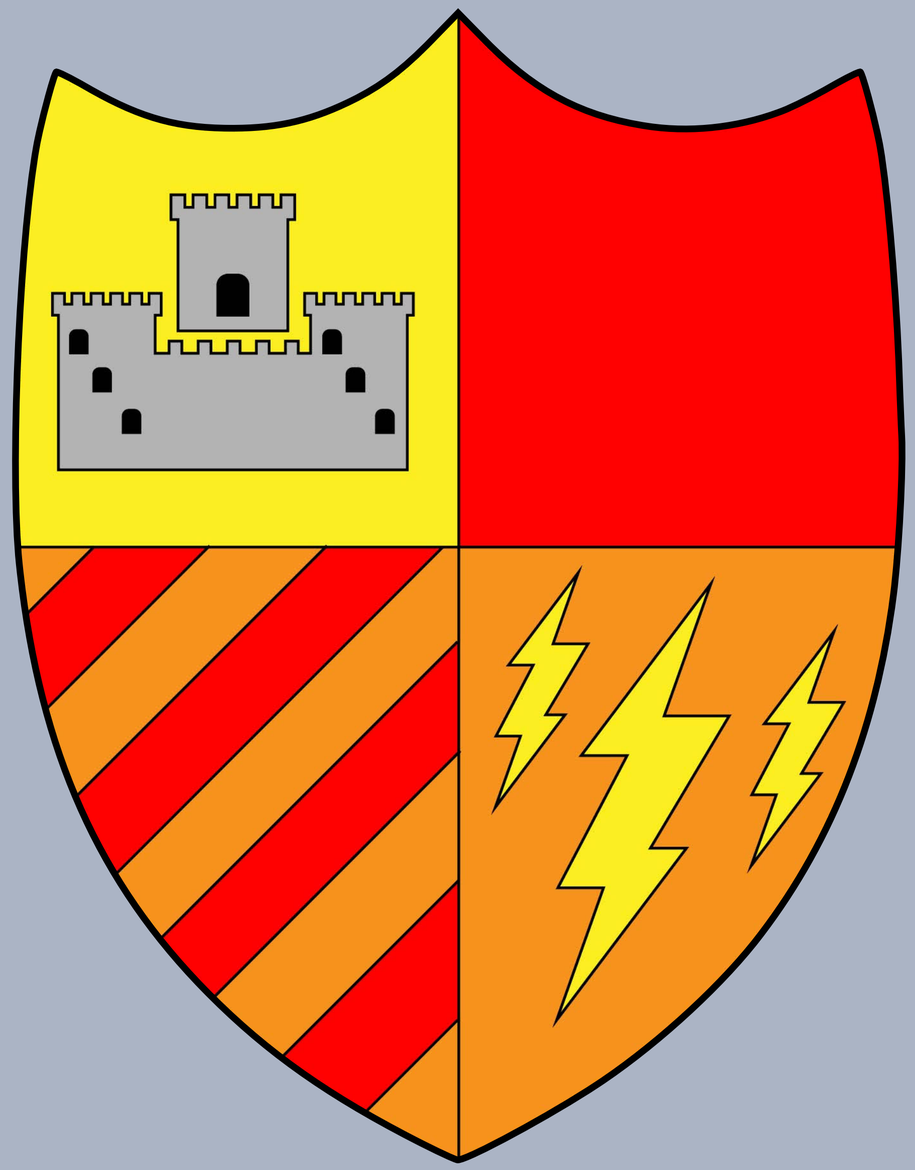


Once you have finalised your design, you can sketch the shape of your coat of arms onto a large sheet of cardboard or card.



Cut it out carefully, then sketch all your symbols onto the coat of arms.



You can then paint your coat of arms, using the colour symbols you have chosen.

What does this coat of arms say about the person who made it?



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Who's ready to go and create their very own coat of arms?

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