

Coats of Arms

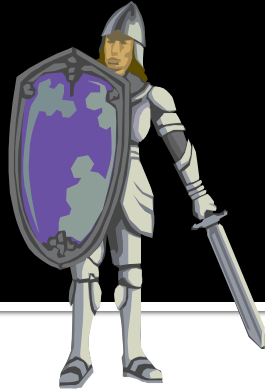
Background and Historical Information

Coats of Arms date back to the early medieval period. In the Twelfth Century helmets and other armour were making it hard to tell friends from enemies.

To help stop this each knight was asked to paint something personal on their shield. These designs were very important in battle (Why?), but they also acted like team uniforms (can you tell me any famous designs that you know?) when knights met in tournaments.



Fashion



- It became fashionable to have a Coat of Arms.
- People hired artists to design them
- The designs were put on a lot of items in the homes, like tunics, saddles, blankets
- They were even put on rings and stamps



Famous Coats of Arms



Colours

Colour	Meaning
Yellow or Gold	Generosity
White Or Silver	Peace and Sincerity
Black	Constancy (loyal)
Blue	Loyalty and truthfulness
Red	Warrior, Strong
Green	Hope and Joy
Purple	Royal Majesty, Justice

Who Had a Coat Of Arms?

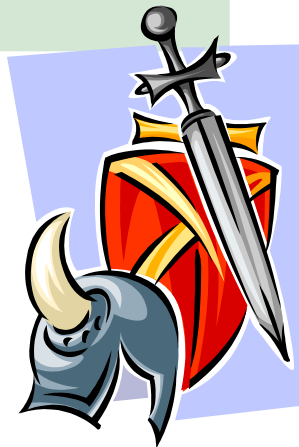
- Soon, coats of arms weren't just for soldiers!
- Some priests were known to have some designed.
- Around 1230 towns and cities began to have their own coat of arms (Does Nettleham Junior School have a Coat of Arms ?- Look on your uniform).
- This was a time when not many people could read or write, so having a coat of arms made it easier to recognise others.



Symbols and their Meanings:

Animals

Bear	Protectiveness
Dog	Loyal
Double Eagle/Eagle	Leader and Decisiveness
Dragon	Defender of treasure
Fox	Clever
Lion	Courage
Snake	Ambition
Unicorn	Extreme courage





Heraldic Symbols



Axe	Dutiful
Crown	Authority
Fire	Zeal
Heart	Sincere
Star	Noble
Sun	Glory
Sword	Warlike
Castle	Protectiveness

