

Create a personal coat of arms

Coats of Arms date to the early Middle Ages. In the early twelfth century, helmets and other armor began making it difficult to tell armed warriors apart. The solution was for each knight or soldier to paint something personal on his shield. These designs were important in battle, but they also functioned like team uniforms when knights met in tournaments. Over time, shield emblem designs became enduring symbols of their owners and their families. (ArtHouse 2008)

Using the prompts and the template that follow, create a personal coat of arms that reflects your identity. Use markers, colored pencils, 3D items. Sketch, write words, draw symbols. Use any method you want to communicate your qualities. Be creative. List one entry, or many. Each coat of arms is as unique as the person who creates it.

Imagine someone studying it to understand who you are.

In the top left block: Express one (or more) thing(s) that you are very good at.

In the top right block: Represent something you are working to learn or improve.

In the second row on the left: Show something to represent your greatest achievement this past year.

In the second row on the right: Represent a place that is important to you.

In the third row on the left: Create a symbol of your personality.

In the third row on the right: List three words that you would like to have associated with you or words that you hope to be remembered by.

In the bottom center point: Visualize a value that is a deep commitment to you, something from which you would never budge, and draw or write it.

In the banner, add a personal motto—a saying that you use often or a belief that you hold dear.

This coat of arms is a unique representation of you—who you are.

On the back of your personal coat of arms, write one or two sentences (or draw pictures) about your memories of science, math, and design (or other creative) experiences when you were young. How did you feel about STEM then?

Now write or draw a few things to communicate how you feel about facilitating STEM now.

Youth wrestle with the question “Who am I?”, and their answers impact choices that they make and beliefs that they hold. The next generation of scientists, inventors, designers, and technology specialists are establishing personal identities now. The messages they receive from family members, teachers, mentors, peers, coaches, and others will impact their capacity to step into challenging STEM roles or solve valuable STEM challenges.



References:

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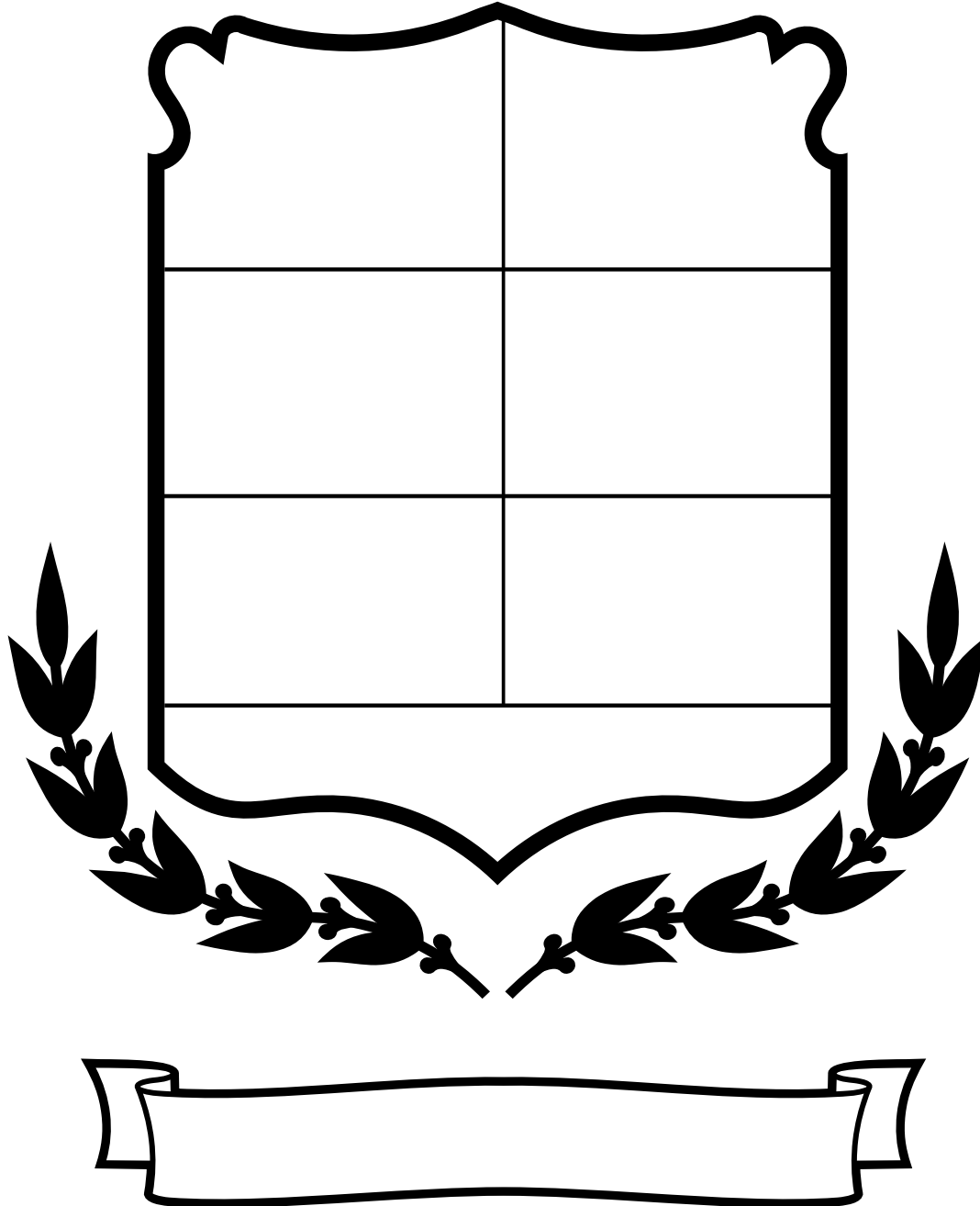
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My coat of arms



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