


# "CODE" of ARMS

30  
minutes

2  
difficulty

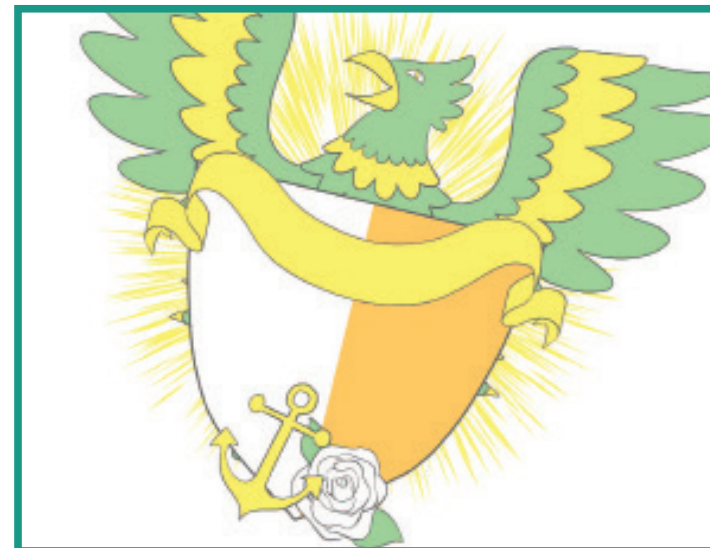
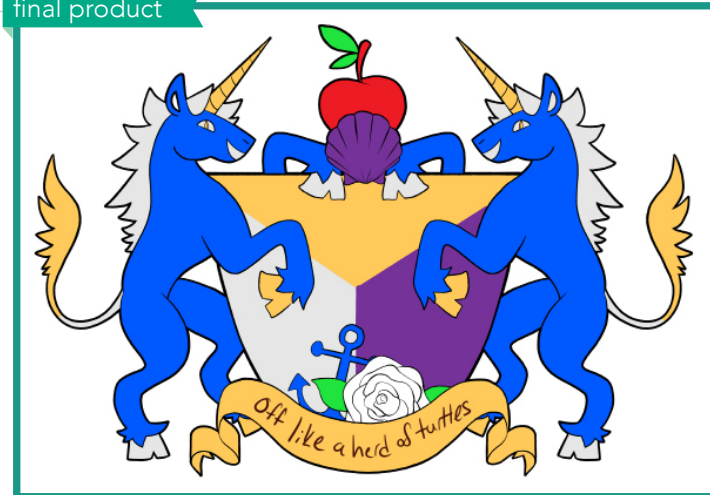
## Tools & Materials:

-  Printer + Paper
- Markers/Crayons/Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

## Description:

They say a picture's worth a thousand words and with a customizable "Code" of Arms, you'll begin to understand why. People have used pictures and symbols to communicate information quickly for thousands of years. And in medieval times, it was notably used to share a family's history and lineage in very artistic ways. Each color, creature and symbol you add to your "Code" of Arms tells the story of your family in a language anyone can read. Get creative and tell your family's story!

final product



# Directions:

- 1 First, you'll need a list of words that best describe your household to narrow down which symbols you should use. Sit with your family and brainstorm together! Are you brave? Thoughtful? Helpful? Dedicated? Write your list of adjectives below!

- 2 Now that you have a list, compare the words you picked to the symbols and meanings page to pick out the best symbols to use. For example, if you wrote that your family is adventurous, then consider using a shell in your crest to show how outgoing you are. Don't forget to pick out colors too! Each one holds a meaning that will help you color in your crest.

- 3 Once you've picked out your symbols and colors, it's time to build your crest! Color and cut your shield, animal and symbols out of their pages. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, glue the pieces together. Organize your symbols on your crest in a way that tells your family's story! If you have two animals, make sure that are facing each other. If you have one of the birds, make sure they are behind your shield with wings on either side.

- 4 The final touch is filling in the banner that goes at the bottom of your crest. This can be filled in with a family motto, the meaning of your last name, or anything else that your family considers important. Write as much or as little as you like, then paste it onto your crest as the finishing touch!



# Symbols & Meanings:

## Objects:

Anchor: Hope, steadiness  
Bells: Power to banish evil  
Chains: Hardworker  
Harp: Composed and thoughtful  
Shell: Traveler, outgoing

## Colors:

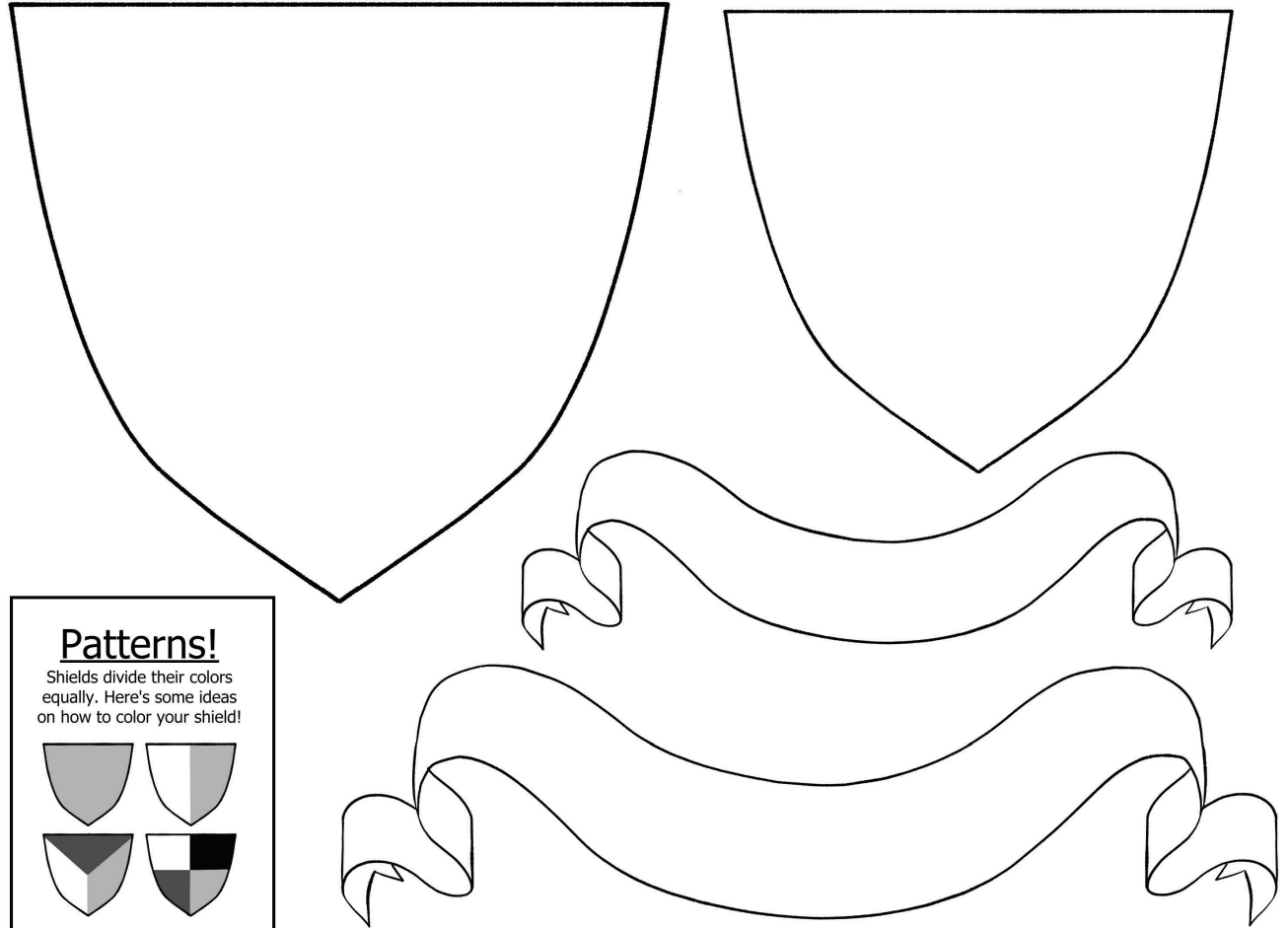
Gold/Yellow: Generosity  
Silver/White: Peace  
Red: Warrior/strength  
Blue: Loyalty/honesty  
Green: Hope/Joy  
Black: Grief  
Purple: Royalty/justice  
Orange: Ambition  
Maroon: Patience/Victory

## Fruit/Flowers:

Apple: Happiness/bliss  
Laurel leaves: Triumph  
Oak tree: Strength/endurance  
Olive branch: Peace  
Red Rose: Grace/beauty  
White Rose: Love

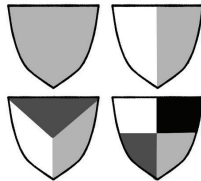
## Animals:

Lion: Courage  
Unicorn: Virtue and strength  
Eagle: Protection and nobility  
Phoenix: Resurrection

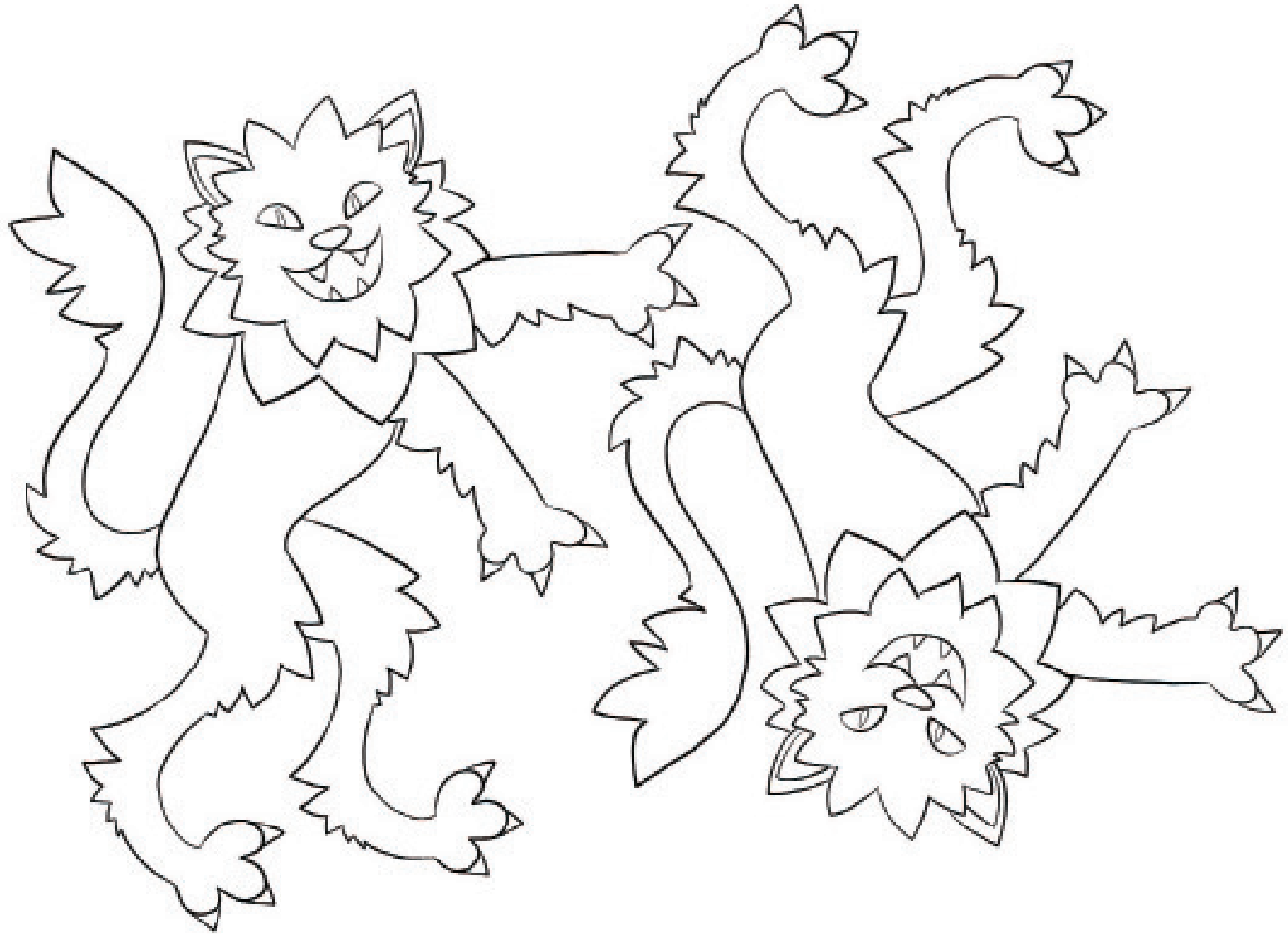


## Patterns!

Shields divide their colors equally. Here's some ideas on how to color your shield!



# Template:



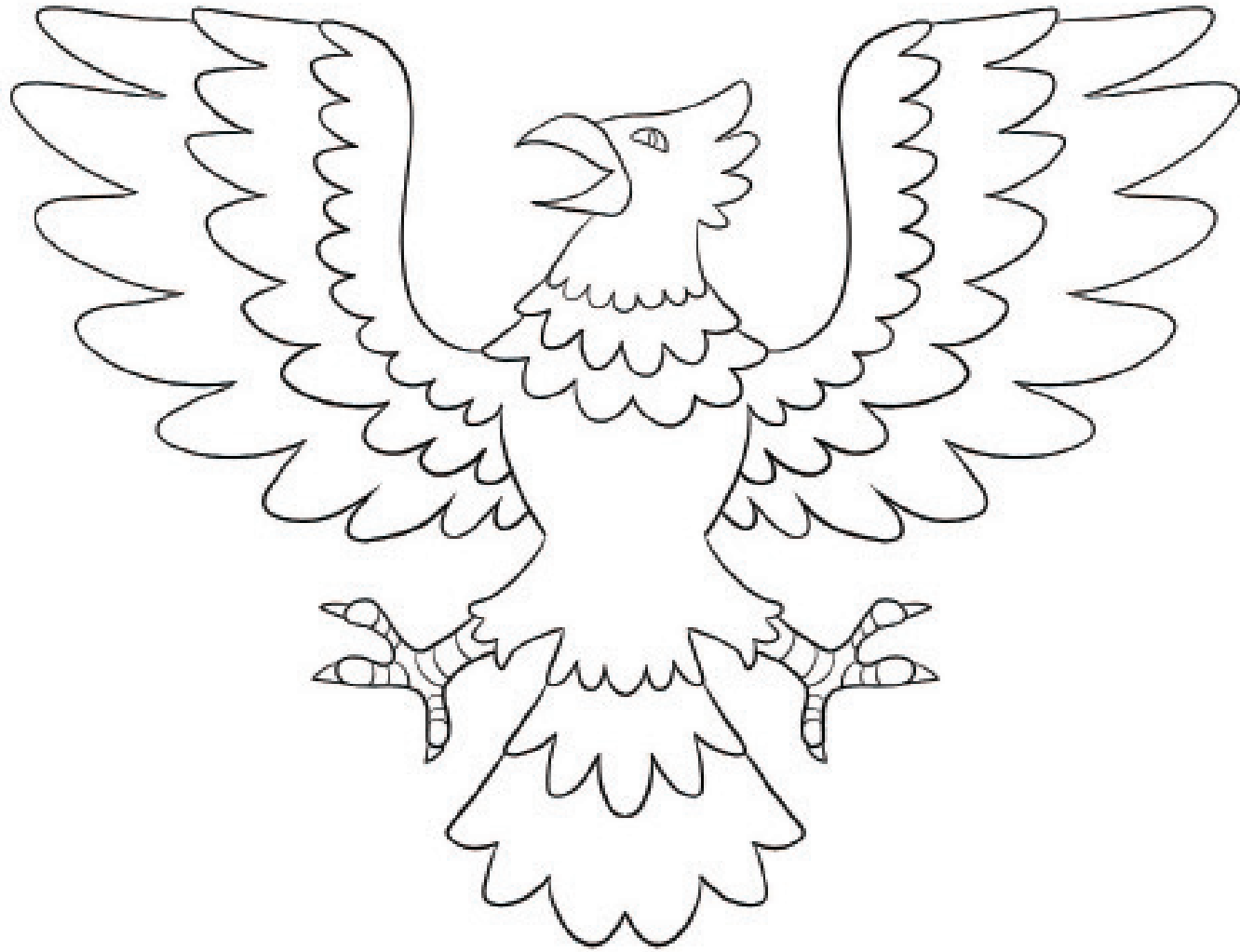
# Template:



# Template:



# Template:





# Template:

