MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

Spike's Object Activity

Theme; Families

#SpikeDinosAdventures



FAMILY; Maidstone Coat of Arms

One of Spikes favourite objects is the Maidstone Coat of Arms. He likes it because it has a picture of the original Iguanodon that was found in Maidstone. (more about this on another day) It also has a lion and a horse on it.

Spike had learned that coats of arms are designed to show important things about the family or place they belong to. They are special unique designs usually painted onto a shield. These designs are inherited, meaning they are passed down through families. In the Middle Ages they were actually painted onto real shields. Now they are usually drawn or painted on paper. For them to become official they have to have a Grant of Arms. Symbols and images are used to represent different parts of the family they belong to.

Activity; Design a Coat of Arms for your family.

One of the Learning Team created this to show our team 'family'. Each symbol represents a different person. We have included a shield shaped template below or you could make it from a cereal box.

Things to note;

Different colours mean different things; Gold or yellow symbolize generosity. Silver or white represent peace and serenity. Blue represents truth and loyalty. Red represents a warrior or military strength. Green represents hope and joy. Black represents grief or constancy. Purple represents royalty or justice. Orange represents ambition. Animals are called Charges;

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Charges that are standing are generally regarded as more alert, fierce, and prepared for battle, whereas seated charges generally symbolize peacefulness and serenity.

Find out more at www.wikihow.com/Create-Your-Own-Coat-of-Arms

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