

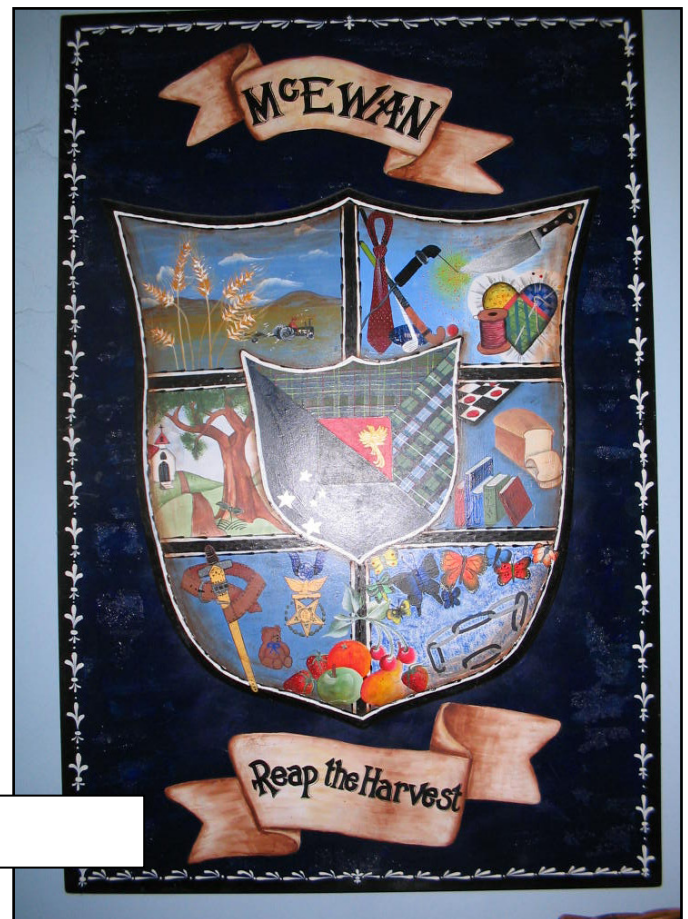
FAMILY COAT OF ARMS

This activity was done on a family camp with the shield (next page) enlarged to A3 size – could be used as an extra night (with children) during a run of GKGW, PFA or RHOYT.

1. Write your family name here.
2. Draw or symbolize each family member here.
3. Draw or symbolize parents occupations, training or major interests. Can include that of adult children if you wish.
4. Symbolize other people that are significant to your family – grandparents, church family etc.
5. Symbolize your cultural heritage. This can be your country of birth or that of your ancestors or even a country you have lived in. There will quite likely be more than one country to represent, so divide the space into as many segments as needed.
6. Draw or symbolize one or more activity that your family enjoys. If there is one activity that you all enjoy together use that. If there is no one activity that includes you all due to age or otherwise, represent several activities that include two or more of you at a time, making sure the whole family is represented.
7. Discuss your family “code of conduct”.
i.e. What are the values that govern your behaviour.
Obedience, truth, respect, honour, self control etc.
8. Discuss your hearts desires for your family, short and long term. These might be things such as unity, trust and deep relationships. Draw or symbolize these.
9. In around four to five words, think of a family motto and write it here.

Remember your symbolism can be as cryptic as you like. No one outside your family has to be able to ‘read’ your shield, but anyone in your family (old enough to be verbal) should be able to explain your shield. What is important is the discussion and agreement on each segment of the shield. Have fun!

When you go home, consider making a feature of your family crest – perhaps painting, embroidering, cross stitching, embossing...



Sample

