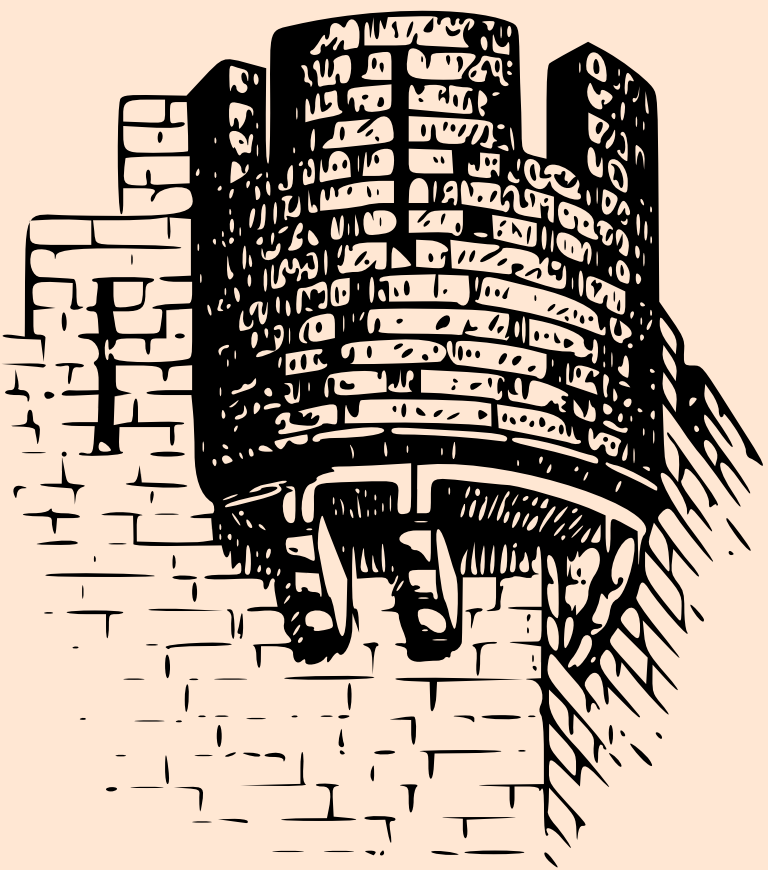
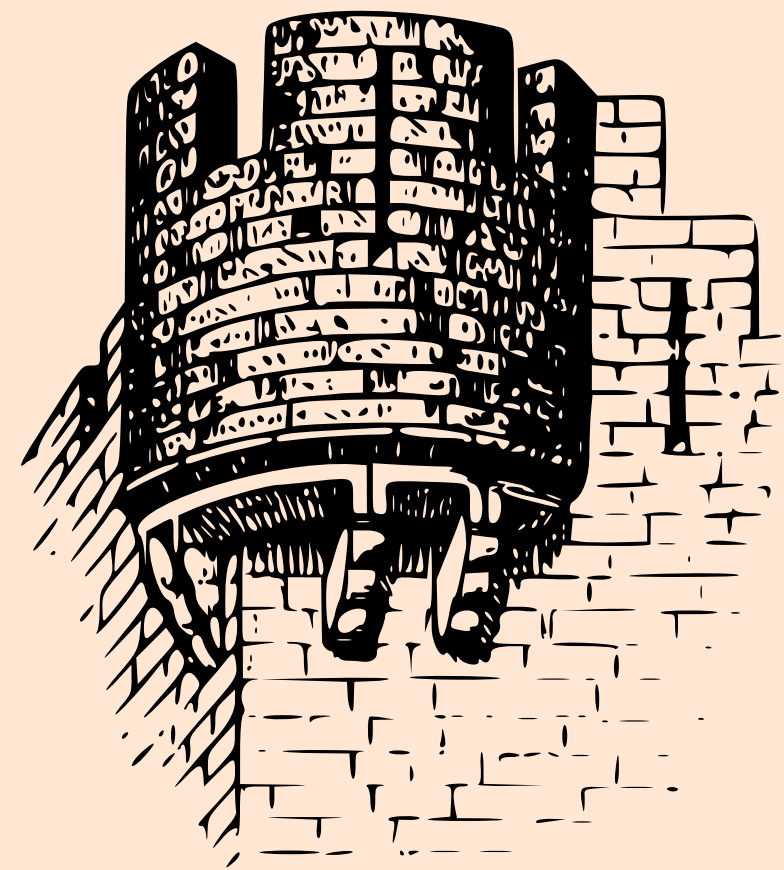


Meet

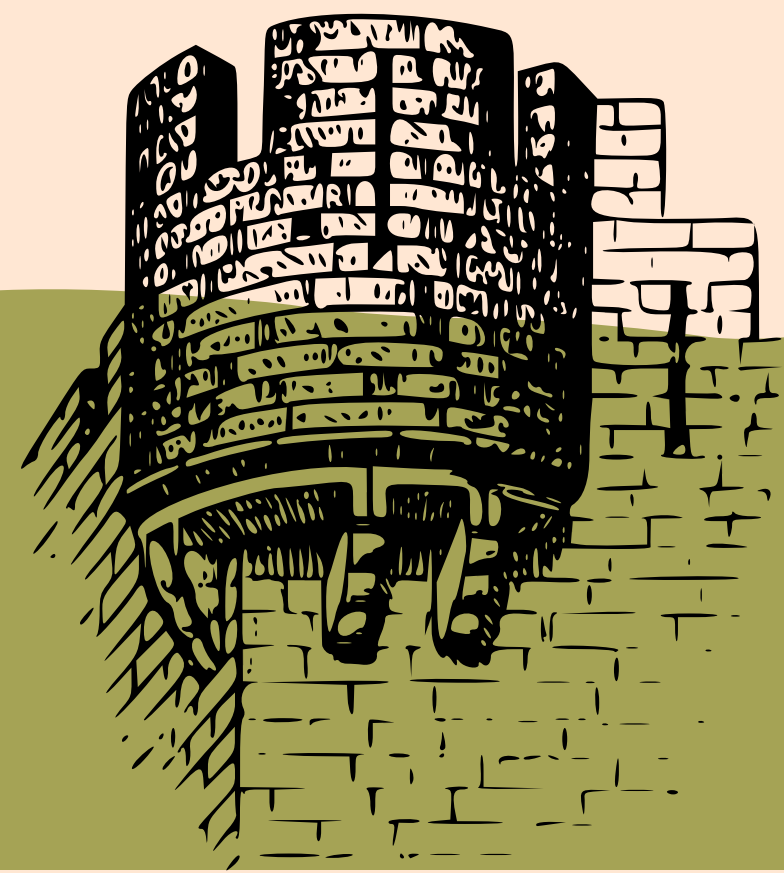
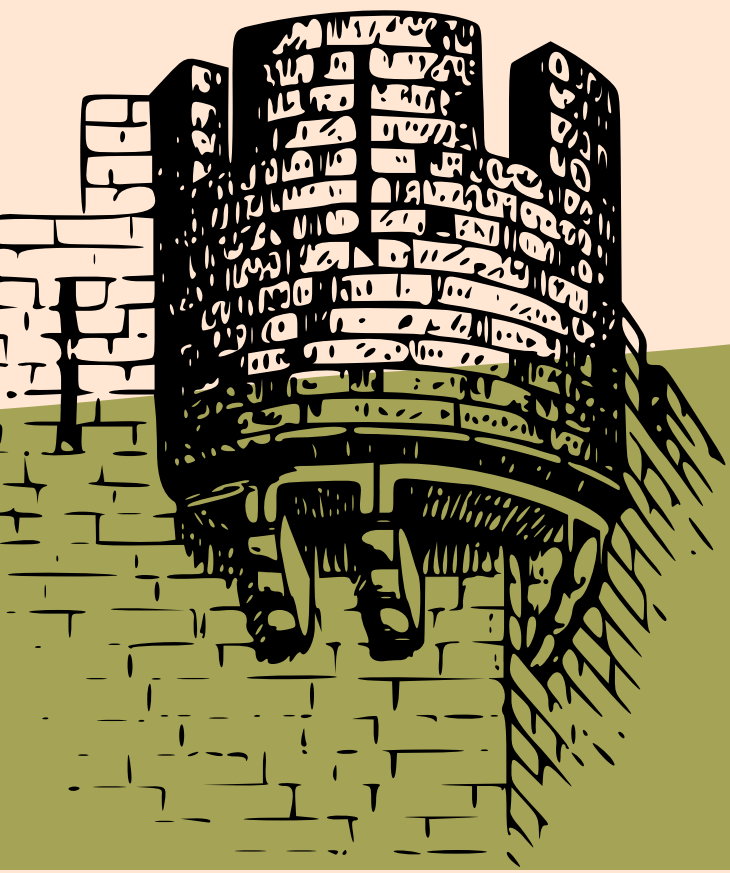
Robert ap Maredudd



 cadw



You are about to meet a
character from history



His name is Robert ap Maredudd and as a knight, he is one of the people who supported Owain Glyndŵr.

Glyndŵr lived over six hundred years ago. He served the English King Richard II, he lived in London for a time and even fought alongside the English against the Scots.

He spoke English and French as well as Welsh.

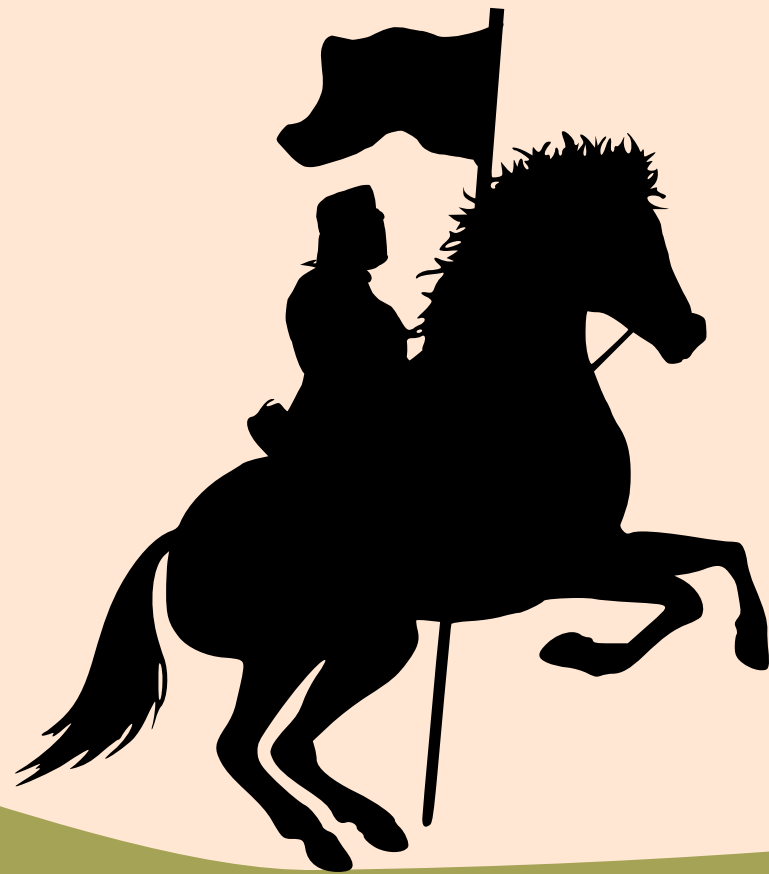


When Henry IV took the crown of England from Richard, all that changed and Owain led a great Welsh revolt against the King.

For a while things went well for Owain and his followers but eventually, after many battles, the English managed to defeat them. Owain Glyndŵr refused to surrender and was never captured. Legend has it that one day he will rise again to fight the English.



The battle for power in Wales divided many families. While Robert is a strong supporter of Owain Glyndŵr, his brother, Ieuan ap Maredudd, decided to support the English king.



Robert is proud to speak Cymraeg, a language that was once spoken by the Celtic people across most of Europe but which has been pushed into just a few areas such as Wales, Cornwall, Brittany and the Scottish Isles.

**Dw i'n caru
siarad Cymraeg**



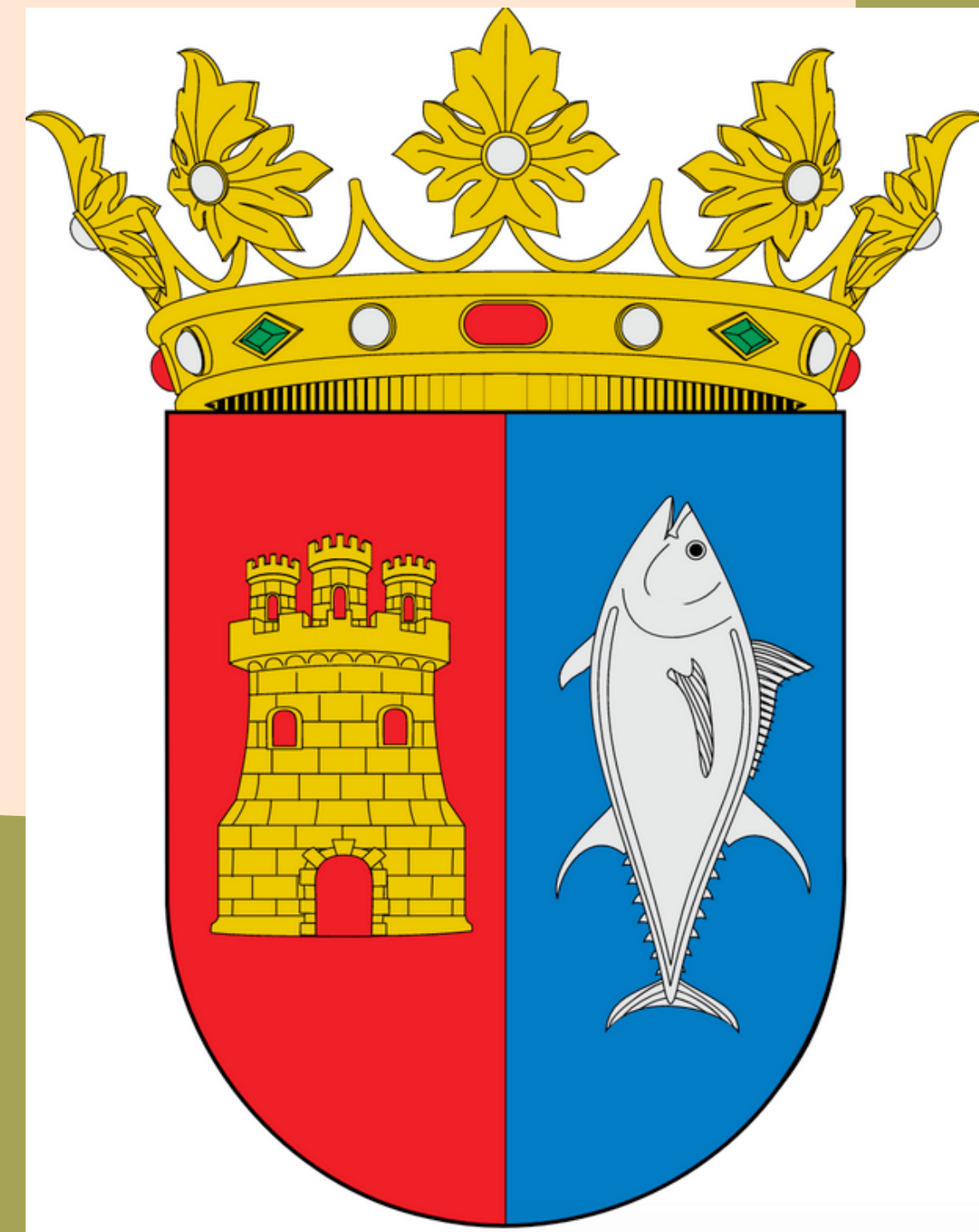
Robert fights with a crossbow. This powerful weapon has a bow made of elm and re-enforced with layers of animal horn. The bolt that it shoots is shorter but heavier than an arrow and has a steel point and feathers, known as fletchings, to make it fly straight.



Robert protects himself with armour that includes a steel helmet called a bascinet that has a visor to protect his face. He also carries a wooden shield that is strengthened with steel and covered in leather to take the impact of swords, arrows and other weapons.

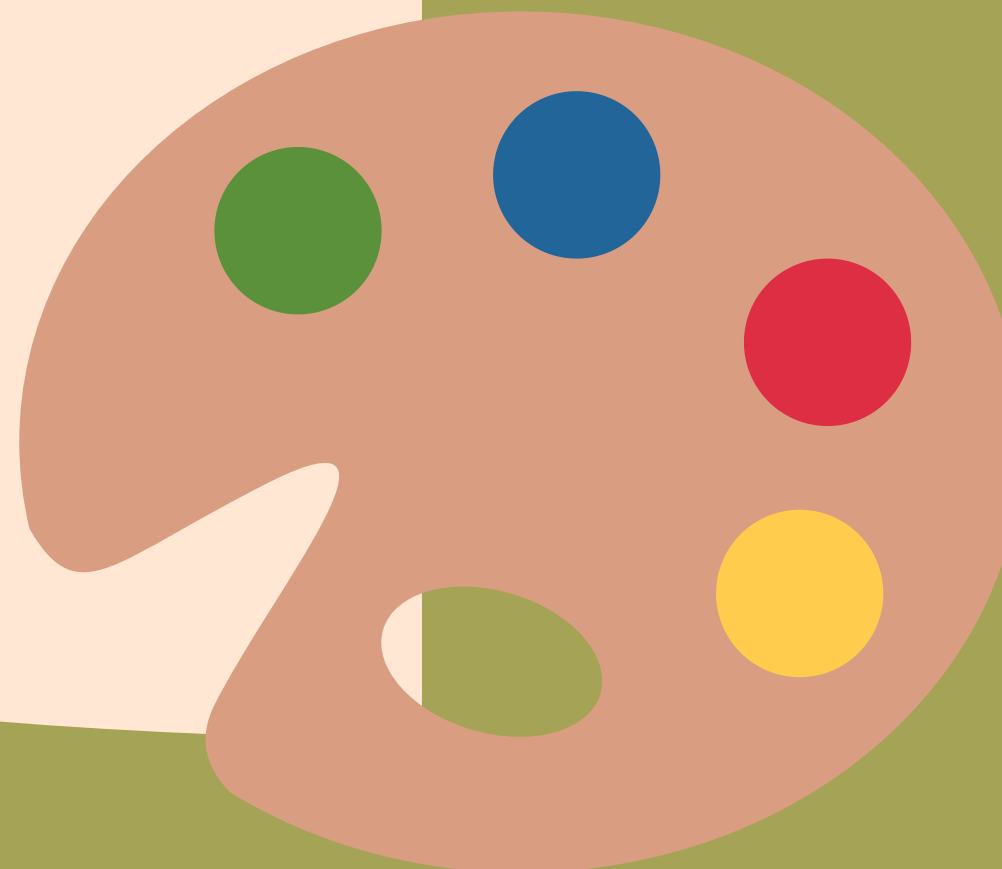


As the helmet made it very hard to see anyones face, something else was needed so that people could be recognised on the battlefield and so knights began to paint colours and designs on their armour and shields to tell the world who they were. Their designs would be worn only by them, leaving no one in doubt about their identity. The use of these designs is called heraldry.





Activity Time



Create a Heraldic symbol!

Make your own heraldic symbol. This design should be different to any other person's so that everyone can identify you even if your face is hidden.

You might start by dividing a sheet of paper into sections of different colours. It might be divided in half or quarters. It could have a vertical or a diagonal cross.



Many heraldic designs included animals. Think of your favourite animal and add it to the design. Animals in heraldry could be standing, sitting, rearing up or even looking out and roaring.



Design a knight!



Look at pictures of knights from six hundred years ago. Study their costume and weapons and then draw your own design for a knight.

Perhaps you might use chain mail. This was made from lots of metal rings looped together that gave protection while allowing the knight to move.

2

Once you've designed your costume, you can add weapons. Perhaps you might choose a crossbow like Robert's or a longbow or, like the knights of North Wales, a spear.



3

Finish the drawing by adding your own heraldic design to the shield and armour. Your knight might even carry a flag so that his fellow knights can find him in battle.



Curriculum



Humanities

- * Enquiry, exploration and investigation inspire curiosity about the world, its past, present and future.
- * Events and human experiences are complex, and perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.
- * Human societies are complex and diverse, and are shaped by human actions and beliefs.

Expressive Arts



- *Creating combines skills and knowledge, drawing on the senses, inspiration and imagination.
- *Responding and reflecting, both as artist and audience, is a fundamental part of learning in the expressive arts.