

Task: Coat of Arms

Approach: One to one

Year: 4 & 8

Focus: Symbols associated with national identity

Resources: Picture



Questions / instructions:

Show student picture.

Here is the New Zealand Coat of Arms. It can be found on a New Zealand passport and in other important places. This Coat of Arms is an official design to represent our country. It tells people something about our country.



1. What do the things and people on the Coat of Arms tell you about our country?

Relates features to NZ history, character, place in the world:

3 or more features related appropriately

2 features related appropriately

1 feature related appropriately

any other response

2. Do you think it should be changed?

yes

no

3. What are your reasons for saying that?

Argument for point of view:

substantial, well-expressed argument

moderate argument

limited argument

no argument

Ask the next question if the student says there should be changes.

4. Describe to me the changes you would make to the Coat of Arms.

Nature of change (if any):

major redesign

add one or more elements

no clear ideas for change

answer to question 2 was "No"

Rating of ideas for change (if any):

strong

moderate

weak or no clear ideas

answer to question 2 was "No"

Total score:

5-6

4

3

2

0-1

% responses
y4 y8

17 63

21 18

33 15

29 4

18 15

82 85

1 4

10 22

54 55

35 19

1 1

10 11

6 2

83 86

1 1

5 8

11 5

83 86

5 21

13 37

19 20

21 15

42 7

Commentary:

About 63 percent of year 8 students, compared to 17 percent of year 4 students, could relate three or more features of the Coat of Arms to New Zealand history, character or place in the world. More than 80 percent of both levels of students thought the current Coat of Arms should be retained. Overall, 40 percent more year 8 than year 4 students scored four or more.