

# Medieval Games

## Volume: 2 January 2026

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Calling all Rising Knights of the Realm

Wednesday, April 29th - Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

### Prepare Ye One and All!

The Knights of Desert Star, Flower Farms, Pine Forest, Running River, School of Quintessence, and Tucson Waldorf have heard the call and are preparing for the Medieval Games!

Visit the Arizona Medieval Games website at [www.arizonamedievalgames.org](http://www.arizonamedievalgames.org) to find information about creating tabards, examples of Coats of Arms, the packing list, and costume ideas for volunteers and teachers. You can also view the menu, learn about medieval life, read testimonials, and more!



#### Squire Attire

Each squire will wear a tabard over their shire shirt. Tabards will be decorated with a coat-of-arms or a symbol, designed by the student. Each school must have their own color for their tabards. Choose a color from that time period, if possible, keeping in mind that purple is reserved for royalty.

Information on how to make these is at the end of this newsletter and is available on the website. Questions? Reach out to us at: [www.arizonamedievalgames@gmail.com](mailto:www.arizonamedievalgames@gmail.com)

### The Feast

The Feast, as described by Chaucer, was much more than just sitting down to eat. Medieval society revolved around the manners of the individual. Instruction in proper courtly behavior was as important for young children as learning to read or write. Each gesture and each food item had meaning. The word *companion* derives from this, literally meaning, the one with whom you share bread.



During the Feast, each class will have the opportunity to entertain the King and his Court. Be sure to come prepared with a song, story, poem, dance, or other entertainment that may please the King.



***Squires, it will serve you and your shire well  
to commit this quote to memory:***

FOR LIKEWISE AS CHIVALRY GIVES TO A KNIGHT ALL THAT TO HIM APPERTAINS, IN LIKEWISE A KNIGHT OUGHT TO GIVE ALL HIS FORCES TO HONOR CHIVALRY.

Ramon Lull  
Book of Knighthood and Chivalry

# THE ORDERS



*Carmelites  
Coat-of-Arms*

**Franciscans (Friars Minor):** Founded by St. Francis of Assisi, these emphasized preaching. As a consequence, they were instrumental in the establishment of the University. Commonly called the “Greyfriars” from the color of their habits.

**Dominicans (Friars Preacher):** Founded by St. Dominic, these emphasized the pursuit of learning and intellectual activity for combating heresy, and were equally important to the development of the University. Commonly called “Blackfriars” from the color of their habits.

**Carmelites:** They were an urban mendicant order, but allowed more time for study and meditation than the others. Commonly called “Whitefriars” from the color of their habits.

**Knight Hospitaller:** Holy order of knights pledged to administer to the sick and protect holy places during the Crusades.

**Knight Templar:** Similar to the Knights Hospitallers, but more likely to provide protection and currency exchange for travelers to the Holy Lands. These were suppressed throughout Europe at the instigation of the King of France (who desired their wealth) in 1316.

**‘Ulama or ‘Alim:** A scholar, specifically in religious subjects. The term ‘ulama is used to describe the class of professional men of religious learning who form the nearest Muslim entity to a clergy.



*Knight Templar  
Seal*

*Seal of  
Dominica Order*



*Sign of the  
Franciscan Order*



## DID YOU KNOW?

### The minute, as a measurement of time, didn't exist.

During the Middle Ages, people used a combination of water clocks, sun dials, and candle clocks to tell time though none of those could tell time to the minute. While the best water clocks told time to the quarter hour, it wasn't until the wide use and improvement of mechanical clocks that people could tell time to the minute.

Even though the minute hand may have existed as early as the late 15<sup>th</sup> century, Jost Burgieven is credited with inventing it in 1577. Still, it took over a century for the technology to spread as the minute hand wasn't widely added to clocks until the 1680s.

Taken from [andreacefalo.com/telling-time](http://andreacefalo.com/telling-time)



This sculpture on the side of Chartres Cathedral shows an angel carrying a sundial, a device used to tell time during the Middle Ages.

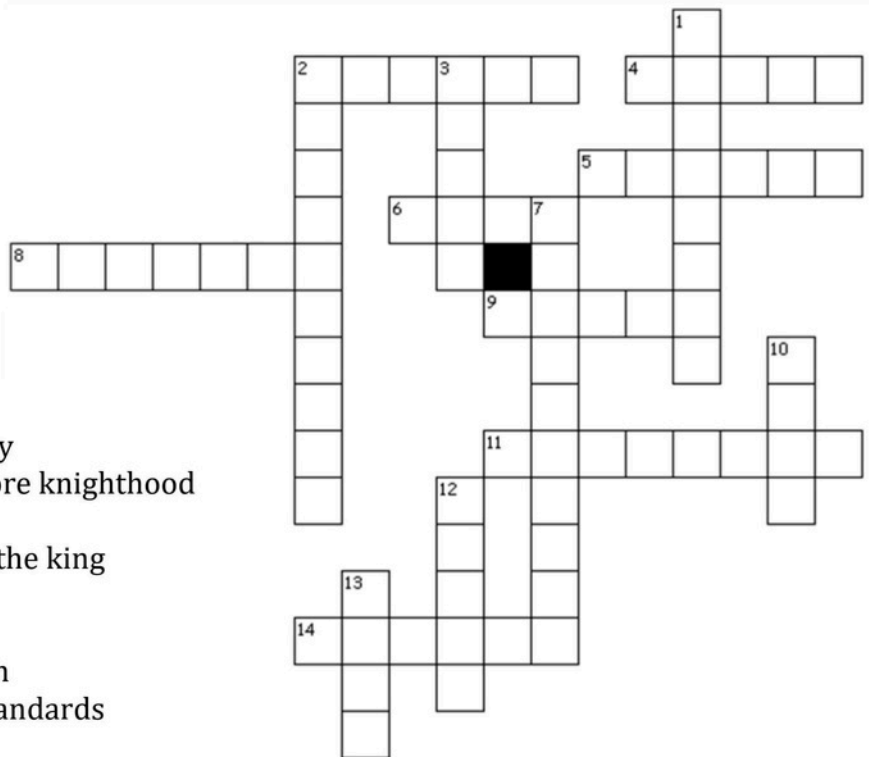
## Medieval Vocabulary

### Down

1. Medieval singer or musician
2. Moderation in all things
3. Worn for protection in battle
7. Pathway over a moat
10. Spiked weapon used in battle
12. Complete trust
13. Ruler of the land

### Across

2. Piece of clothing showing heraldry
4. Squire's quiet contemplation before knighthood
5. Dwelling for royalty
6. Man who held land directly from the king
8. To uphold what is right
9. Weapon used in jousting
11. To discipline oneself with reason
14. Behavior showing high moral standards



# TABARDS & COATS OF ARMS



Each student will wear a tabard during the event. Taking good care of the tabard is the responsibility of the each squire. The tabard is constructed from 1/2 yard of fabric, approximately 60 inches wide. This information and a gallery of examples may be found at [www.arizonamedievalgames.com](http://www.arizonamedievalgames.com).

*Most schools have a collection of tabards that are used each year. Check with your class teacher.*

## Tabards

Their construction is simple. Tabard fabric should be a period appropriate color. Please keep in mind that PURPLE is reserved for royalty only.

1. Cut the fabric into 1/2-yard (18") lengths.
2. Fold the fabric in half with the selvage together and cut a head hole in the center of the fold.
3. If the fabric unravels easily, you may need to hem the edges. Simply finish the sides of the tabard by folding over the edge, approximately 3/8 of an inch, and finishing with a zigzag stitch.
4. Make ties from extra fabric (or purchase bias tape) and attach at sides to secure the tabard. Side ties secure the tabards much better than belts, which have a tendency to fall off.
5. Label each tabard with the name of the school visible on the back.

## Coat of Arms

Each student will create their own design, reflective of their interests, character, and artistic sense. Students can paint, glue, or sew their Coat of Arms onto a small piece of fabric and then attach it to the tabard or the coat of arms may be created on the front of the tabard.

*Each shire will wear a unique colored t-shirt under their tabards.*

