

## ADINKRA SYMBOLS WORKSHEET

Have you ever noticed the special symbols on the wrapper of Divine Chocolate bars?

They are called 'adinkra symbols'. Adinkra symbols originate from West Africa and have been developed over hundreds of years by the Asante people of Ghana.

Each of these symbols has its own meaning. Some of them come from traditional stories and sayings. Some are like badges, telling us about what sort of people we are ('brave' or 'proud', etc). In Ghana, the adinkra symbols are carved, woven and printed on traditional crafts and fabrics.

Today you can see them everywhere in Ghana and of course on Divine chocolate bars across the world. Why on a chocolate bar? The reason is that Divine Chocolate is made with cocoa from Ghana, so the adinkra symbols remind us of the company's Ghanaian roots.

### ACTIVITY 1 – DRAW AN ADINKRA SYMBOL

Have a look at the **Adinkra Symbol Handout** with its range of adinkra symbols.

If you have a Divine Chocolate bar to hand, you could work out the meanings of some of the symbols on the bar.

Decide which symbol is your favourite and why. Draw a picture of that symbol.

### ACTIVITY 2 – DESIGN YOUR OWN ADINKRA SYMBOL

Have a think about some more symbols:

	<p>The Olympic symbol is five interlocking rings, representing the union of the five continents of the world, joined together in one great game.</p>
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	<p>The Fairtrade Mark shows a person with their arm raised up in the air, symbolising empowerment. It reflects the fact that people – producers and consumers – are at the heart of Fairtrade.</p>
	<p>The Amnesty International logo combines barbed wire to communicate oppression, while a burning candle evokes hope. It was inspired by the Chinese proverb, "Better to light a candle than curse the darkness".</p>
	<p>The Tree of Life is an ancient symbol common to many religions and cultures. It is a large tree, with its roots and branches enclosed in a circle. It represents life, rebirth, ancestry, strength and wisdom.</p>

Discuss the meanings and/or feelings associated with each symbol.

Now think about what is important to you: it could be anything, from *values* like courage or kindness, to *attributes* like strength or having nice hair, to all sort of *things*, from family and friends, to musical instruments, favourite books, your gaming console, or your pet.

Write down the top three things that are most important to you. Next, create an adinkra symbol of your own that symbolises one or more of these things.

The symbol should fit within a square shape, have strong, simple lines, and not too much detail.

### ACTIVITY 3 – DESIGN YOUR OWN CHOCOLATE BAR

Next, design and draw your own chocolate bar, and decorate the wrapper with the adinkra symbol you have created.

What shape is it? What sort of chocolate? What are the ingredients? Make sure you give your chocolate bar a name!

When you have finished, you could even take a photo of the bar and share it on social media with Divine Chocolate!