

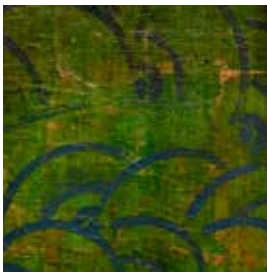
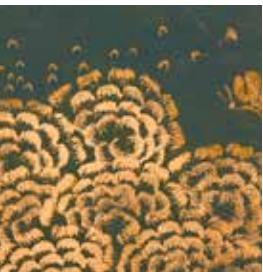
# Birds of a Feather F|S Kids



**James McNeill Whistler** worked for months to transform this dining room, which belonged to his friend Frederick Leyland in London, into a painted work of art. He added thin sheets of gold to the doors and woodwork, and he painted patterns of peacock feathers on the walls and ceiling. He even painted four large peacocks on the window shutters. Look up at the ceiling. How did he paint on such a hard-to-reach surface?

## Finding Feathers

Whistler thought of peacock feathers when he painted the wavy patterns around the room. Find the different ways Whistler painted peacock feathers.



## When Friends Become Enemies

Leyland was surprised and angry when he saw Whistler's extensive redecoration to his dining room. He refused to pay the full asking price for the artist's work. Furious and disappointed by Leyland's reaction, Whistler painted a mural of the former friends, showing them as fighting peacocks.



### Talk About It

Which peacock do you think represents Leyland, the wealthy businessman? Which one is the artist?

One peacock has silver and gold coins on its chest. More coins are scattered around its feet. That one is Leyland.

Pretend the peacocks can talk to each other. What would they say? If they could move, what might happen next?