

# Art Detectives

## Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 1, Salute the Leader  
**Leaders and heroes**

In 1917 in Russia, people were hungry and unhappy. They held strikes and riots. The people forced the emperor (Tsar Nicholas II) to step down. Vladimir Lenin became leader of the country overnight. People saw him as a hero.

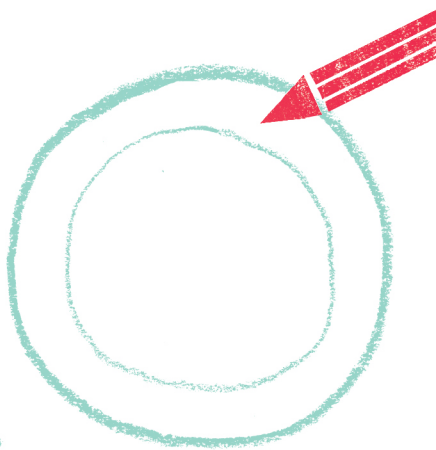


### Look

Find some plates and cups with Lenin's portrait on them.

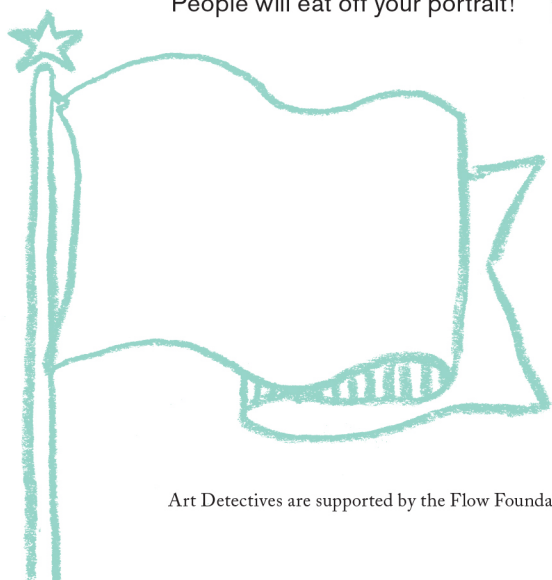
Do you think people really ate and drank from these?

Draw an image of yourself as a leader on this plate.  
People will eat off your portrait!



This is a banner that people will carry through the streets.

Draw a portrait of any leader on the banner and colour it in.



# Art Detectives

## Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 1, Salute the Leader  
**Leaders and heroes**

**Leaders don't just lead countries.  
You can lead in other ways.**

### **Talk**

Who is the leader of your class?  
Your group of friends?  
Your school?  
Your favourite sports team?



Talk about what makes them the leader  
and whether they are good at it.  
Why? Why not?



### **In your sketchbook**

Draw a portrait of your hero or heroine in your sketchbook. Think about what colours portray their personality.

Write down in your sketchbook why they are your hero or heroine!

# Art Detectives

## Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

### Find room 2, Man and Machine **Workers in the city**

In the 1920s, the Russian government wanted to use its factories to show the world how important it was. They told artists to produce images to show off very productive factories and farms. In reality, most workers did not have enough to eat.



#### **Look**

Find a photo or painting of a worker in a city factory.  
Draw the worker:



Circle how you think they feel:

Strong Healthy Tired Happy Rich  
Poor Unhappy Bored Excited



# Art Detectives

## Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 5, Fate of the Peasants  
**Workers in the countryside**

In Russia, after the Revolution, the Communist party decided everyone was equal. This meant that no-one could own anything and they had to share everything they had.

Find a painting of a worker in the countryside or on a farm. Sketch the worker here:



### In your sketchbook

Imagine a world where you have no possessions.

What would that feel like?

What would you miss the most?

What would you enjoy sharing?



## Art Detectives Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 3, Brave New World  
**Pavel Filonov**

People and animals inspired Pavel Filonov's paintings. He worked in a very unusual way, adding figures, shapes and colours bit by bit to create detailed and busy images. He thought more about the process of painting than the finished piece.



### Look

Find the three Pavel Filonov paintings in the middle of this room. Choose one painting. Stand two metres away from it. What can you see?

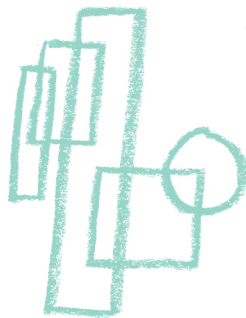
Now go closer... What do you see?



### Count

Count how many....

Faces you can see  
Houses you can see  
Squares you can see



How long do you think this painting took to paint?



# RA

## Art Detectives Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 3, Brave New World

**Pavel Filonov**



### Draw

Pick an object you could find at home,  
like a plant or a toy.

Draw the object in the middle of the card.  
Twist the card and draw it again.  
Keep doing this until you have repeated  
the object all over the card.



Art Detectives are supported by the Flow Foundation

# Art Detectives

## Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 8, Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin  
**Still-lives**

Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin (1878-1939)  
painted people and things rather than  
abstract shapes and areas of colour.  
He also painted still-lives. These are  
arrangements of objects like food,  
vases, flowers, dishes and cups.

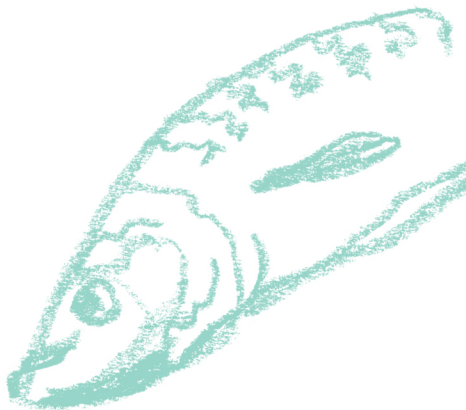


### Look

How many still-lives can you find in this room?

Can you find ...

An egg?  
A fish?  
A teapot?  
A matchbox?  
A potato?  
A dog?



Which of all the still-life tables would you  
like to sit at? Why?

# Art Detectives

## Revolution: Russian Art 1917–1932

Find room 8, Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin

### Still-lives



#### In your sketchbook

At home, choose three of your favourite things and arrange them on a table.

List your three objects here

1

2

3

Place them around the table and spend 15 minutes drawing a still-life.

Try to pick a mixture of objects, with different textures and surfaces.

