



Melchior de Hondecoeter

Bird Painter

Netherlands, 17th century





When did he live?



He lived from 1636 to 1695

This period is called the
**“Golden Age
of the Netherlands”**



Interesting fact

Tulip Mania



People went **crazy** for tulips!



His family



He was born into
a family of artists

Grandfather



artist

Dad



artist

Mother





Studies

He wanted to become
a preacher.



What?

But he became an artist.



His teachers:



Dad Uncle

artist

artist

What was he drawing?

Seriously

Domestic and exotic...

BIRDS

Wow...



...in courtyards and gardens

Melchior de Hondecoeter

The raven is robbed of the feathers with which he had adorned himself



Why are his paintings special?

Very realistic



Beautiful!



Light and shadow

WOW...



Vivid colors

Sense of movement

Melchior de Hondecoeter

Cockfight





Rapfael of birds

That's what they
called him.

This is a huge compliment!

RAPFAEL

is one of the
greatest artists in history.



Melchior de Hondecoeter


Rooster, hens and chicks





Why did he become
such a good artist?

family tradition
lots of practice
study his ideas





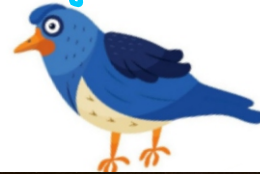
Art of that time

Artists painted: food

These were
paintings
for the home.

people
houses
animals

and the
birds?





Melchior de Hondedeoeter

fragment

The Floating Feather





Melchior de Hondecoeter

Birds on Balustrade





Melchior de Hondecoeter

Birds in the park



What kind of bird would you draw?

And me...



Draw me



Me



A book and a puzzle

Finally, at the end of this presentation, we will mention that there is a beautiful book about Melchior, as well as a 1,000-piece puzzle based on one of his paintings. You can look it up on Google to find out where the book and the puzzle are available for purchase.



1.
Today we are going to get to know a very special artist. He did not paint kings or heroes... he made birds the true heroes of his paintings! He was born in 1636 in Utrecht and later moved to Amsterdam, where he died on April 3, 1695.

Question: Do you think a bird can play the main role in a painting?

2.
At that time, the Netherlands was a rich and powerful country. Trade was conducted all over the world, and many ships were built. Because of this wealth, science and art also developed rapidly. People loved art and bought many paintings.

Questions: Do you know any famous painters from the Dutch Golden Age? Can you name one?

Global trade during the Dutch Golden Age (17th century) made the Netherlands one of the richest and most powerful countries in the world. This was mainly due to worldwide trade in grain, coffee, tobacco, and spices.

Questions: Do you know what spices are? Can you give an example? Why do you think this period is called the "Golden Age"?

3.
When the artist was born, there was a real "tulip craze" in the country. Tulip bulbs were as expensive as houses! Tulips originally come from Turkey. The word "tulip" comes from the Latin word Tulipa. Today, in the Netherlands, you can see large fields with long rows of tulips.

Questions: Have you ever bought tulips for your home? What color were they? Would you buy a flower for the price of a car?

4.
He grew up surrounded by brushes and paints. You could say he was born... right inside an artist's studio! Everyone in his family was a painter.

Question: If your whole family were artists, would you start painting too?

5.
He was very smart and a great speaker. He even thought about becoming a preacher. But in the end, he chose art.

You can joke: The birds were probably very happy about that!

6.
He didn't just paint birds — he painted real scenes from their lives. Sometimes they fight, sometimes they walk around, and sometimes they look very important!

Question: Have you ever drawn a bird portrait?

7.
This is one of his artworks. It is called: "The feathers he decorated himself with came from a raven."

8.
His paintings look almost like photographs! It feels like the birds could step out of the painting at any moment.

Question: Do you think it's hard to paint feathers so they look real?

9.
Another one of his artworks is called "Cock Fight."

10.
This was a huge compliment! Raphael was one of the greatest artists in history. So this means our artist was a true master.

Question: Have you ever seen paintings by Raphael?

11.
This is one of his artworks: "Rooster, Hen, and Chicks."

12.
He didn't just copy other artists — he used his family's experience and made his paintings even better.

Question: Do you learn things from your family?

13.
People bought paintings for their homes. There were many different types of paintings. Not only kings, but also rich people bought art.

Question: Do you have any paintings at home?

14.
He became one of the most famous artists. He showed that even birds can play the main role in art.

"The Floating Feather". Look carefully at the painting...

Questions: Where is the feather? Can you find it? Do you see another feather in the painting?

Explanation: Yes, the second feather is still floating in the air. The artist shows movement — the painting feels as if it is "alive".

Mini task: Use your hands to show how a feather falls.

15.
"Bird on a Balustrade". Here we see birds sitting on a balustrade.

Questions: What kind of birds are they? What do they look like?

Explanation: The artist shows their character — their "personality."

Comparison: It's like a portrait — but not of people, of birds!

16.

"Birds in a Park". This painting looks like a "bird party."

Questions: How many birds can you see? Which one is the strangest?
Which one is the most beautiful?

Explanation: The artist painted birds from different countries, as if they all met in one place.

Fun fact: At that time, rare birds were brought from faraway lands!

Game: Choose your favorite bird and explain why you like it.

17.

Question: Do you like this artist? What is his name?