Art Card

KIDS

COLLECT THEM ALL!

FIND ***Two Children Are Threatened by a Nightingale*, by Max Ernst, in the fifth-floor Painting and Sculpture Galleries.**

This work was inspired by a dream the artist had in which the wood grain on a panel near his bed turned into "**an eye, a nose, a bird's head, a menacing nightingale, a spinning top**," one after the other.

LOOK closely at the painting. Which of the objects from Ernst's dream can you find? Which objects are painted, and which are attached to the painting? What else do you see?

TALK with your friend or family member about the people and objects in the artwork. What do you think is going on in the picture?

Ernst wrote a poem shortly before making this painting. It begins:

At nightfall, at the outskirts of the village, two children are threatened by a nightingale . . .

WRITE a story that begins with the first lines of the poem. What will happen next?

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Max Ernst (French, born Germany. 1891–1976). *Two Children Are Threatened by a Nightingale.* 1924. Oil on wood with painted wood elements and frame, 27 ½ x 22 ½ x 4 ½" (69.8 x 57.1 x 11.4 cm). Purchase. © 2012 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris