The artist James Tissot grew up in Nantes, France. His mother owned a hat shop and his father was a merchant for a time. As a painter, Tissot made artworks that include a high level of detail and drama. He is famous for chronicling the era that he lived in, showing elements of a story without giving away the ending—which he leaves for his viewers to consider.

**Find and Describe**
Explore the exhibition using the hints below. When you find a work, use the painting's details—and your imagination—to fill in the blanks.

**This evening I feel** ________________ as I circle the ring.
I can hear ________________ and know ________________.

**Standing here I** ________________.
Do you notice ________________ and ________________?

**With my friends at a picnic, I like** ________________. This is our favorite spot because it ________________ and ________________.

**As I wait to be discovered, I notice** ________________.
I wonder ________________ and ________________.

**Compare and Contrast**
Find Tissot's self-portrait. Compare and contrast the painting with this photograph of the artist.
- How would you describe the artist in each image?
- What can we learn about Tissot in the painting that we do not see in the photograph?
- What choices do you see the artist making in his self-portrait?
Sketch and Imagine
Tissot included so many details in his paintings, you can imagine stepping through the frame and entering into the past. Choose one painting with children in the exhibition that captivates your imagination. In the space below, sketch two details from the work and then write a story that describes what is happening in the scene and how it will end.

A photograph of James Tissot, 1866. Collection of Frédéric Manton

James Tissot, La Femme à Paris: Ladies of the Chariots (detail), ca. 1883–1885. Oil on canvas, 57 1/2 x 39 5/8 in. (146.1 x 100.7 cm). Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence (RISD), 58.196

James Tissot, Portrait of the Marquise de Miramon, née Thérèse Feuillant (detail), 1866. Oil on canvas, 50 1/2 x 30 3/8 in. (128.3 x 77.2 cm). The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, 2007.7

James Tissot, Holyday (The Picnic) (detail), ca. 1876. Oil on canvas, 30 x 39 in. (76.2 x 99.4 cm). Tate N04413 © Tate, London 2019

James Tissot, Hide and Seek (detail), ca. 1877. Oil on panel, 30 x 23 3/4 in. (73.4 x 53.9 cm). National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, Chester Dale Fund, 1978.47.1