

# Folk Art Birds Script

Hello, my name is Jennifer Tackett, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development at the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture Food and Environment. Today I am going to talk to you about Appalachian folk art.

First let's go over the definition of folk art. Folk art is art that is produced by everyday people as part of their everyday lives. Most folk art forms are traditional, meaning they are taught or passed on within cultural groups, either by word of mouth or by example, or by a combination of these. Some examples include basket making, quilting, corn husk dolls, and whittling.

Four-Headed Goose is a work of painted wood by one of Louisville's most celebrated folk artists, Marvin Finn. His works often depict country animals such as chickens, roosters, horses, and bulls. Finn uses scrap wood to cut the profile of the animal and often paints his works using colored stripes, dots, and dashes against a solid color background. In addition to his animals, he is known for creating complex cranes, shovels, and bulldozers like those he watched while working as a laborer in the Louisville dockyards. In 2001, large metal replicas were made of some of Finn's wooden birds and put on display in downtown Louisville.

Create your own folk art bird in the style of Marvin Finn. Create a creature (real or fictional) and, using pencil only, draw it on a large piece of paper. Then paint it or color it, adding bright colors, patterns, and textures. Use your imagination! Have fun! When you are finished coloring or painting, you can cut out the animal shape.

Thank you for joining me today as we look at Appalachian Folk Art. If you'd like to learn more about the Kentucky 4-H Expressive Arts program, please reach out to your local University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Agent for details.

Resources:

<https://www.ket.org/on/collections/visual-arts-toolkit/>

[https://4materiality.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/mg\\_1626.jpg](https://4materiality.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/mg_1626.jpg)

Learn more at [www.kentucky4h.org](http://www.kentucky4h.org) or contact your county extension office.

