

ACTIVITY GUIDE



Making Cents

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Graphics by Art Today**

Pre-reading

Looking at the cover graphic. What do you think the story will be about? What is the boy doing with the coin? What is he dropping it into? Where are some other places to put money for saving?

Language Arts

The boy counts the five pennies when he drops them into the bank. Why do you think he counted them?

The boy exchanges the five pennies for a nickel, then two nickels for dime, and so on. Why do you think his dad encourage him to exchange the money?

The boy finds a nickel lying on the ground. What types of places could he be to find money that someone had accidentally dropped? Where have you found money on the ground? What were you doing at the time?

The boy exchanges his four quarters for a dollar. What's the difference between a dollar bill and a coin? Which one would you prefer to have?

Whose pictures are on money? Is there a picture of our current president on money?

Why did the boy want his coins back? Why do you think he liked the sound?

Make up a story about what you would do, or where you would go if you had lots of money.

Math

Lay five pennies side by side. What single coin equals that amount. Do the same with two nickels, two dimes and a nickel, etc.

Use 100 pennies as an example of 100 days of school.

Which weighs more? A penny? A nickel? A dime? Does the bigger coin mean it's worth more money?

Would a piggy bank hold more pennies or nickels? Why?

Have each student guess how many pennies would fit in their shoe. Which shoe would hold more, the student's or the teacher's? Pair the students together and have them guess which one of their shoes would hold more pennies.

Science

Place some tarnished pennies in a cup of vinegar and salt. What happens to the pennies?

Which is lighter, a dollar bill or a coin? What happens when you drop each one?

What sounds do different coins make when dropped? Is one louder than another?

Art project

Have the children roll out clay with a rolling pin, then make impressions in the clay using a penny, nickel, dime, and quarter. When the clay dries, have them paint the clay coins with colored markers.

Have the students lay a piece of white paper over a coin and rub the paper lightly with a pencil. It might be helpful to attach the coin to the table with double-stick tape.

Dramatic Play

Act out the story of the three little pigs. Have the characters in the story buy the straw, sticks, and bricks. Assign a price for each. The moral of the story, "you get what you pay for."