

Money: What Is It?

Lesson 1: Money: What Is It?

Grade: K-2

Objective: Students will be able to recognize different types of US currency and know its value.

Procedure:

1. Welcome the students to class and hold up a coin (any coin will do but a penny is nice because they know it won't buy them much). Ask students how much they can buy with the coin?
2. Then hold up a dollar (if you don't have a dollar or penny, use one of the cards from the deck). Ask the students what they can buy with it. They'll recognize it as more.
3. Begin the PowerPoint slide and discuss each slide as you go.

Optional: If time permits, the link on the last slide to the currency academy is great! It tells students all about U.S. Currency; how it's made, how to become paper bill artist, about the symbols on the bills, and more. At the bottom of the page there is a worksheet for you to review to see if it fits into your curriculum.

4. Then go through each of the money flash cards in the deck and give examples of what you can buy with that amount of money.
5. Teach students the Coin Song.
6. Have each student cut out their own cards to create their own deck (if possible, print them on thicker paper or card stock). Give each student an envelope or rubber band to keep their cards organized and so they don't lose them or mix them up with a classmate.
7. Once students have cut their cards out show them the different ways they can use them.

Option 1: Match All the Cards (use them like nomenclature cards)

8. Have students keep their 4 decks in front of them and organize the card with the picture of the currency, the value, and the name in one vertical line.
9. Then have students match the cards in the other decks to the first row of cards they laid out.
10. As they put each card out have them read the card, this will help them with word recognition, beginning sounds, and the goal of understanding the value of each piece of currency.

Option 2: Matching words and symbols

11. Have students match only the written word cards with no pictures. For example, the student would lay out the cards that say, “penny” or “dollar” in one row. Then they would match each word card with the correct value card.

Option 3: Flash Cards

12. Allow each student to find a partner.
13. One partner will have the cards with only the pictures while the other holds the cards with pictures and words.
14. The student holding the cards with only pictures would flip one card over and say the value and the name of the coin or dollar. The other student would find the matching card and confirm they were correct.

Option 4: Matching Game

15. Pair up students
16. Instruct students to shuffle one deck of the cards with the picture, the value and the name with one deck of cards that only has the picture (the two larger stacks of cards should be in one pile now).
17. Tell them to flip all the cards over and play a matching game.
18. One student flips over two cards. If the cards show the same value, they keep them in their pile. If they don't match the student flips the cards over and it's their partner's turn.

Closure

19. Send each student home with their cards and tell them to use all the cards in all the different ways they did in class with their family at home.

Coin Song

 Penny,  Nickel,  Dime,  Quarter.
Penny, Nickel, Dime, Quarter.

A penny is worth one,
A nickel is worth five,
A dime is worth ten,
And a quarter's twenty-five.

Penny, Nickel, Dime, Quarter
Penny, Nickel, Dime, Quarter

