

# Money Introduction — Penny, Nickel, Dime

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child is introduced to US coins: penny (1 cent), nickel (5 cents), and dime (10 cents). They learn to identify each coin by sight and touch, understand its value, and begin counting mixed coins.

## What You Need:

- Real US coins: pennies (20), nickels (10), dimes (10)
- Coin identification cards with pictures and values
- Small items to 'buy' (pencil, sticker, toy)
- Price labels
- Sorting tray

## Steps:

1. Present real coins on a tray: several pennies, nickels, and dimes.
2. Penny: 'This is a PENNY. It is worth 1 cent. It is copper-colored. See Abraham Lincoln on the front.'
3. Nickel: 'This is a NICKEL. It is worth 5 cents — the same as 5 pennies! It is bigger than a penny but thicker.'
4. Dime: 'This is a DIME. It is worth 10 cents — the same as 10 pennies! It is the smallest coin but worth the most.'
5. Sort coins by type. Count groups of each.
6. 'How many cents in 3 pennies? In 2 nickels? In 1 dime and 2 pennies?'
7. Play 'store': price small objects at 5, 10, 15 cents and pay with coins.

## Work Space:

