

Project Guide: Counting Money

Common Core Standard: 2.MD.C.8 – Count coins and bills and determine the total value.

Lesson: Counting Money Through a Classroom Store Simulation

Objective:

1. Identify and count various denominations of coins and bills.
2. Determine total values in real-world scenarios.
3. Practice budgeting by selecting items to "purchase" within a set budget.

Materials:

- Real or play money (various denominations).
- Price tags for classroom items.
- Shopping baskets or containers.
- Money counting mats or templates.
- Paper and pencils.
- Calculator (optional, for advanced learners).

Safety Precautions:

- Ensure play money is age-appropriate and non-toxic.
- Avoid using small coins unsupervised to prevent choking hazards.
- Maintain a clean workspace to avoid contamination, especially if students handle shared materials.
- Supervise younger students closely to ensure appropriate use of materials.

Procedures:

1. **Setup:** Arrange a "store" in the classroom with items labeled with price tags. Ensure each item has a clear price tag in whole dollars or cents.
2. **Introduction:** Briefly review the values of coins and bills with the class. Use examples to demonstrate how to count combinations of money.
3. **Activity 1: Money Counting Practice:** Provide students with a random assortment of coins and bills. Ask them to sort and count the total value of their set.
4. **Activity 2: Shopping Simulation:**
 - Assign each student a budget (e.g., \$10.00 in play money).
 - Students take turns "shopping" by selecting items within their budget.
 - They must calculate their total spending before "checking out."
 - At checkout, verify their calculations together as a class or in small groups.
5. **Reflection:** Once all students complete their shopping, discuss budgeting strategies and challenges they encountered.

Note: Clean-up

- Have students return all materials to their designated areas.
- Ensure all play money is accounted for and stored neatly.
- Disinfect shared materials and clean workspaces to maintain hygiene.