

Activity: Recognising coins

You will need:

Recognising Coins Master, real coins, feely bag or

pot

Before you start:

Cut *Recognising Coins Master* into cards.

Instructions:

- Give each child a different coin. Ask each child to say the value of their coin, reading this from the coin if they need to.
- Choose a description card and ask children to hold up their coin if it matches that description. Repeat with different cards to cover the colour and shape of the coins. Stress that cards describe the colour of coins, not the metal they are made from.
- Ask each child to give a full a description of their coin to the group. Model this yourself to show how you can describe its value, colour and shape.
- Repeat the above until all coins have been discussed.
- If children need more practice at knowing key features of each coin, ask them questions such as: Which coins are circular?
- Mix up some coins in the middle of the table and ask children to quickly select a given coin. Ask ‘How did you identify it?’
- Once children start to recognise which features match which coins, play a game:
 - Turn the cards face down on the table in a grid.
 - Place a mixture of coins (to include coins of each value) into a feely bag or pot.
 - Take turns to pick a coin from the bag/pot without looking and choose a card to turn face up. If the chosen coin has that feature, keep the card. If not, replace the card in the grid, face down.
 - Play until all cards are taken or for a set number of rounds.



Activity: Recognising coins



- What is the value of your coin? What is its colour/shape?
- Which coins are copper/7-sided/larger than a £1 coin?
- Which coin is two different colours? Which coins are not circular?
- Can you describe the value, colour and shape of your coin?
- Can you find a (2p) coin? How did you recognise it?
- What does the card you have chosen say? Does this match your coin? How do you know? Which coins do match that property?
- What property cards could you choose to match your coin?
- Do you remember where there is a card that would match?

The Mathematics

This activity involves children identifying and describing the key features of coins. Children also start to classify coins according to their properties, for example suggesting which coins are silver in colour or which coins are *not* circular. The intention behind this activity is that children should start to recognise the value of coins and be able to select a coin of any value quickly.

Simplifications:



- Initially, do the activity with coins up to 20p before repeating with all coins.
- As you look at each coin, make a poster of its key features and use these for reference.
- Play the game with the cards face up to reduce memory demands.

Challenges:



- Discuss the relative sizes (diameters) of the coins and add new cards e.g. Bigger/smaller in size than a £1 coin.
- Discuss relative values of coins and add new cards e.g. Worth more/less than 20p.
- Research features of coins using the Royal Mint website: www.royalmint.com/discover/uk-coins/
- Discuss the value of notes.

Recognising Coins Master

silver	silver	copper
copper	silver and gold	silver and gold
round	round	7-sided
12-sided	1p	2p
5p	10p	20p
50p	£1	£2