

# COMMON CENTS

## BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

**Recommended Ages:** Grades K-2

**Estimated Time:** 30 – 45 minutes

**Stuff you'll need:** Small container (mint tin), 10 pennies, 5 nickels, 5 dimes, 4 quarters (for each tin), example set of coins.

**Caregivers should consider:** Girls should ask permission before using any materials.

**BADGE OR JOURNEY  
STEPS COMPLETED**

Daisy – Money Counts Step 1

## THE FUN PART

1. Place a pile of coins on the table. You should have at least 10 pennies, 5 nickels, 5 dimes, and 4 quarters. Discuss with your girl what coins are used for and if they have ever used coins before?
2. Show what a penny looks like and have your girl take a penny out of her container and look at it.
3. Ask questions:
  - What is this coin called?
  - What can you tell me about this coin?
  - Whose face is on the coin?
  - What do you know about his person?
  - Does this coin have writing on it? What does it say?
  - What does “Liberty” mean? Why might this coin say “Liberty” on it?
4. Point out where the coin says “One Cent”. Explain to girls that every coin has a value. Do you know what value means?
5. Take out a nickel to examine.
6. Repeat Step 5, asking similar questions. Can you find the value of the nickel? If a penny is worth 1 cent, and a nickel is worth 5 cents, how many pennies equal a nickel?
7. Take out a dime to examine.
8. Repeat Step 5, asking similar questions. Can you find the value of the dime? If a penny is worth 1 cent,



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and a dime is worth 10 cents, how many pennies equal a dime?

9. Take out a quarter to examine.
10. Repeat Step 5, asking similar questions. Can you find the value of the quarter? If a penny is worth 1 cent, and a quarter is worth 25 cents, how many pennies equal a quarter?
11. Review the values of each coin and ask which coin has the greatest value? Which has the least value? Which is the largest coin? Which is the smallest coin? Does it matter which coin is biggest in size? Why or why not?
12. Lay out all the dimes in a row and count them. How many do you have?
13. Now lay out the rest of your coins and continue the row placing the coins in the order of greatest value to least value. What comes after dimes? How many nickels do you have? What comes after nickels? How many pennies do you have?
14. Count the value of all the pennies. Do the same with the nickels, dimes, and quarters.
15. Discuss that even though there are more pennies than dimes, the dimes are worth more than the pennies. And even though there are the same number of nickels and dimes, the dimes are worth more than the nickels. Which coin do you have the least amount of? How much are the quarters worth?

## TAKE LEARNING A STEP FURTHER!

All you will need is a muffin tin and paper muffin cups. Write on the bottom of the paper muffin cups random amounts of money (i.e. \$.58, \$.83 & \$1.25).

Using the coins that they have (and they will need more coins) have your girl count out the correct amount of change for each paper muffin cup.

**Way to go! You did it! Share on social media with your caregiver's permission. Use the hashtag #GSGIDIY**

