



Treasure Hunters: Counting Coins to Conquer Riches!

Grade Level: 2nd

Lesson Objective: Students will identify and count different coins (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters), recognizing their values and solving simple addition problems within \$1.00.

Lesson Motto: "Eyes sharp, brains clever, count like a treasure hunter! Every coin tells a story, let's unlock their worth!"

Materials Needed:

- For Video Game Option:
 - Classroom computers with internet access
 - Kid-friendly counting games:
 - Coin Drop (free): Students count falling coins, adding their values.
 - Piggy Bank Panic (free): Collect coins to buy virtual toys, practicing addition within \$1.00.
 - Money Math Safari (free): Solve coin-based addition problems in a jungle adventure.
- For Unplugged Activity:
 - Large treasure chest box or decorated cardboard box
 - Play money coins (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters) in various quantities
 - Play money bills (\$1 bills optional)
 - Maps and treasure hunt clues (optional)

Lesson Outline:

Warm-up (10 minutes):

- Play a "Simon Says" game with money-themed instructions: "Touch your pennies!" "Shake your quarters!" Introduce coin names and basic movements.
- Show pictures of different coins, singing a catchy rhyme about their values (e.g., "Penny, penny, one small step, makes a nickel jump in value!").

Introduction (15 minutes):

- Gather students around the "treasure chest." Explain they'll be treasure hunters, learning to count coins and solve money mysteries.
- Introduce different coins (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters) using visuals and manipulatives, highlighting their sizes, colors, and values.
- Practice counting individual coins and small groups, using manipulatives and rhymes.

Instructional Activity (20 minutes):

- Divide students into teams.
- For Video Game Option: Teams rotate through chosen counting games on computers, practicing individual and group coin identification and addition within \$1.00. Encourage them to discuss strategies and help each other.
- For Unplugged Activity: Hide "treasure" (stickers, small toys) around the room with clues that involve counting specific coin combinations. Teams collaborate to find the treasures, counting and adding coin values to unlock "treasure chest" locks (use tape or paper chains).

Interactive Lab Activity (90 minutes):

- Video Game Challenges:
 - Challenge 1: Coin Collector: Teams race to collect virtual coins in their chosen game within a time limit, counting their total earnings by adding coin values.
 - Challenge 2: Treasure Shop Spree: Teams use their earned virtual coins to shop for items in a game store, practicing subtraction from their total and making change with different coin combinations.
 - Challenge 3: Build a Budget: Teams collaborate to design a virtual lemonade stand within the game, setting a price for their "lemonade" based on material costs (virtual coins). They can adjust their price, calculate potential profits from different sales scenarios, and experiment with managing their virtual budget.
- Unplugged Activity Extensions:
 - Treasure Auction: Teams use their collected "treasures" as prizes in a classroom auction, bidding with their earned play money (coins and bills). They practice addition and subtraction to determine their bids and calculate how much money they have left after winning or losing an auction.
 - Build a Mini-Market: Students design and set up a small pretend market with various "items" priced in cents and dollars. They take turns acting as

cashier and customer, practicing counting money, making change, and completing simple transaction calculations.

- Create a Coin Collage: Students create individual or group collages using play money coins, representing different amounts or showcasing their favorite coin combinations. They can write labels or short stories about their creations, explaining the math involved.

Culminating Activity/Competition (20 minutes):

- Each team presents their findings or achievements from the Interactive Lab Activity.
- Video Game Option: Teams share their highest earned virtual coins, most creative budget plans, or successful shop sprees.
- Unplugged Activity Option: Teams showcase their completed treasure hunts, auction winnings, or mini-market experiences, demonstrating their money counting and basic addition skills.
- The class votes for the most impressive accomplishment, creative strategy, or teamwork display.

Wrap-up (10 minutes):

- Briefly recap the key takeaways about identifying coins, counting their values, and solving simple addition problems within \$1.00.
- Discuss the importance of money management in real life and how these skills can be useful in everyday situations.
- Introduce the post-lesson activity: designing their own "Treasure Hunter Badge" or writing a "Counting Coins Adventure" story.

Post Wrap-up (15 minutes):

- Provide each student with blank badge templates or writing sheets.
- Students can design their "Treasure Hunter Badge" using drawings, colors, and slogans depicting their favorite counting strategies, funny coin characters, or memorable moments from the activities.
- Alternatively, they can write a "Counting Coins Adventure" story, recounting their imaginary treasure hunt journey, highlighting challenges they faced and how they used their coin counting skills to overcome them. Encourage them to incorporate details about different coin values and simple adding scenarios encountered on their "adventure."

- Students can share their badge designs or read excerpts from their stories with the class, fostering a sense of community and celebrating their newfound financial fluency.

Homework/Extended Learning:

Creative and Playful Options:

- Design a Mini-Market Flyer: Students create a flyer advertising their own pretend mini-market, featuring items with prices in cents and dollars. They can include drawings, catchy slogans, and practice calculating discounts or special offers.
- Coin Comic Strip: Students draw a short comic strip depicting a character encountering situations where they need to use their money counting skills. This can be a funny adventure, a helpful act, or a problem-solving scenario.
- Build a Piggy Bank Maze: Using construction paper, cardboard, or online drawing tools, students design a maze for their piggy bank to follow. On the path, they place cards with addition problems based on coin combinations. Completing the maze requires solving the problems correctly.

Research and Reflection Activities:

- Coin Scavenger Hunt: Students research interesting facts about different coins (history, designs, nicknames) and create a scavenger hunt list for classmates. The clues can involve riddles based on the facts or physical descriptions of the coins.
- Family Interview on Money Management: Students interview a family member about their budgeting strategies, how they prioritize spending, and the importance of saving money. They can write a report or create a presentation summarizing their findings.
- "My Future Shop" Project: Students research a type of business they'd like to own in the future. They write a plan outlining the products they'd sell, their pricing strategy, and how they'd calculate profits based on potential sales.

Remember to choose activities that cater to your students' interests and abilities. Encourage them to think creatively, explore real-world applications of their counting skills, and share their learnings with others. The possibilities are endless, so let their imaginations guide them to become even more proficient "Treasure Hunters" of financial knowledge!