Money Patterns Activity

Materials: different types of coins, paper, pencil

Directions: Collect coins from your piggy bank or around your house. Practice categorizing the coins in different ways: quantity, value, and combinations.

1. Coin Quantity: Group the coins based on coin type (penny, nickel, dime, quarter). Count the different amount of each coin type. For example, you may have 10 pennies, 3 nickels, 2 dimes, and 6 quarters.

   • Which type of coins do you have the most of?
   • Which type of coins do you have the least?
   • How many coins do you have in total?

2. Coin Value: Next, count the total value of each of the coins. For example, if you have 10 pennies, you have 10 cents ($0.10). If you have 10 nickels, you have fifty cents ($0.50). If you have 3 quarters, you have seventy-five cents ($0.75).

   • Which coin type is worth the most?
   • Which is worth the least?
   • Does quantity (the total amount of each type of coin) or value (how much the coins are worth) matter more?
   • What is the total value of the coins?

3. Dollar Combinations: Mix the coins together. See how many different ways you can create one dollar ($1.00) using different coins. For example, you can make a dollar using 4 quarters, or 10 dimes, or 100 pennies. You can also make a dollar using 5 dimes and 10 nickels.

   • How many different ways can you make one dollar?

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