

Smart Money: MI Kids Read

Celebrate Michigan Financial Wellness Month

Financial literacy begins at birth. This kit includes money-related and decision-making activities that introduce children to financial literacy concepts. To watch a recording of the songs and activities included in this kit scan the QR code with your smart device.

How to scan a QR code: open your camera, point the camera at the QR code, click the popup notification



READ: Picture Books Related to Financial Literacy

Berenstain Bears' Trouble with Money

by Stan and Jan Berenstain

Berenstain Bears' Dollars & Sense

by Stan and Jan Berenstain

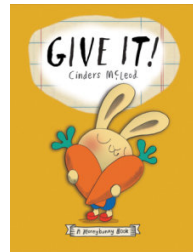
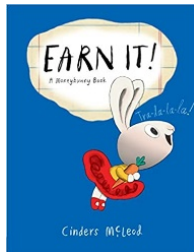
A Dollar for Penny by Julie Glass

Lemonade in Winter by Emily Jenkins

Farmer's Market Day by Shandra Trent

Bunny Money by Rosemary Wells

The MoneyBunny series by Cinders McLeod



SING: I Had a Shiny Dime

Tune: The Farmer and the Dell

I had a shiny dime (*pretend to hold dime*)

I had a shiny dime

I put it in my piggy bank (*make the dime disappear behind your other hand*)

To spend another time

Other verses:

Replace "dime" with penny, nickel, and quarter



SING: Three Little Bills

Three little bills in a wallet new

I bought a box of crayons

And then there were two

Two little bills, and before the day was done

I bought some cookies

And then there was one

One little bill, I heard it plainly say

"I'm going into the piggy bank for a rainy day!"



SING: Down Around the Corner

Instructions: Fill in the blanks with any objects. For each verse, count down until you're left with none.

Down around the corner in the _____ shop

Were five _____ with _____ on top

Along came someone with a nickel to pay

They bought a _____ and they took it away.

Object Examples:

Down around the corner in the bakery shop

Were five little cookies with sprinkles on top...

Down around the corner in the neighborhood shop

Were five umbrellas with points on top...

Down around the corner at my mom's pet store

Were five little kittens and not one more...



SING: Pretty Flowers

Instructions: Hand your child a coin. Have them match their coin to the coin amount for each flower as you sing the rhyme.

Supplies: 2 pennies, 2 nickels, 2 dimes, 2 quarters, and four different flowers. One flower is worth a penny, one is worth a nickel, one is worth a dime, one is worth a quarter.

Song:

Pretty flowers in the flower store.

Pretty flowers, who are they for?

Along came [child's name]

With a penny to pay.

They bought one,

Then gave it away.



TALK

What is money?

- Explain that it is used to *trade* with someone in return for a good or service (like buying ice cream, etc.)
- Explain that when we “buy” something, we are trading the money for things (ice cream, toys, etc.)

Discussion: Explain how coins are different sizes, colors, and worth different amounts.

What happens when we spend money?

Explain that it is gone after we spend it.

What do we use money for? What else can we do with it besides spend it?

Explain that after you earn money you can spend it, save it, and/or give it.

Discussion: Why is it important to save money? What would you do with X-amount of dollars?

Set a family financial goal

Example: Plan to set aside the money you save for a celebration (big or small) like renting a movie, ordering food, buying a new toy, donating to a charity, etc.



WRITE: Coin Rubbing and Matching

Place a coin under a white sheet of paper. Using a colored pencil or crayon, gently rub the colored tip over the coin and paper until the coin design appears on the paper. Fill the sheet with different coin rubbings. Match the actual coin to the correct impression. Write the name of each coin and its value.



WRITE: Coin Identification Game

You and your child can trace around the outside of various coins and color in the shapes. Then invite your child to match the coin to the drawing while discussing each one's name.



PLAY: Coin Sorting

Coin Quantity: Group coins based on their coin type. 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?

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).

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

Dollar Combinations: Mix the coins together. See how many different ways you can create one dollar (\$1.00) using different coins.



PLAY: Play Store

Set up a play store with the items in this bag and whatever you have around your space. Look for the item prices on the “store name” sheet. Match the prices with your play money.



PLAY: Scavenger Hunt

Hide different values of play money around your space. You and your child can look for the money together. When you find some, name the coin/bill and write down the value.



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