

Wolf Elective Adventure- Adventures in Coins

OVERVIEW: By completing this adventure, you will learn cool facts about coins and the design that goes into them. You will also have the opportunity to get creative as you invent new games. Keep in mind you do not need to be a coin collector or expert to guide this adventure. Most of us are not. Also, this is an adventure you can continue to enjoy even after you've earned it. You'll find coins everywhere and can always have conversations about what you've learned here.

Supplies Needed

- Access to the internet using a computer, tablet, or smart phone.
- An assortment of coins- penny, dime, nickel, quarter, others...
- A pencil or colored pencil
- Paper
- Assorted, basic art supplies- e.g., tape, scissors, construction paper
- *Balance Supplies*- Two small paper cups, string, tape, a binder clip, a ruler or paint stirrer, a pencil, and a heavy book.

Adventure Requirements

Do all the following to complete the adventure:

1. Identify different parts of a coin.
2. Find the mint mark on a coin. Identify the mint where the coin was made and the year it was made.
3. Choose a coin that interests you, and make a coin rubbing. List information next to the coin detailing the pictures on it, the year it was made, and the mint where it was made.
4. Play a game or create a game board with your den or family where you can practice adding and subtracting coins.

The following tasks are fun (and optional):

5. Play a coin game.
6. Create a balance scale.
7. Do a coin-weight investigation.

Suggested Teaching Approaches (notes for den leaders, parents or helpful adults)

Requirement	Teaching Approach
1. Identify the parts of coin.	<p>Spread out an assortment of coins and recognize the parts common to all of them. These include the bust, legend, field, inscription, mint mark, edge, rim, and relief. Take your time to note the differences and similarities among different coins. A great diagram of these parts is on pg. 110 of the Wolf Handbook.</p> <p>Or look at https://www.govmint.com/coin-authority/post/the-parts-of-a-coin</p>
2. Find the mint mark and the year on a coin.	<p>Do your best to find the very tiny mint mark on each coin. You may want to use a magnifying glass. Most coins will be marked with a "D" for Denver or a "P" for Philadelphia. Maybe find those cities on a map! Also note the year the coin was made. How old were you (scout and adult) then?</p>
3. Make a coin rubbing.	<p>Put some paper on top of a coin. Lightly rub a pencil or colored pencil back and forth over the coin. The image of your coin will appear in the pencil marks. Do both sides! Notice all the details in your rubbing and learn more about the figures on the coin.</p>
4. Play a coin game involving adding and subtracting coins.	<p>There is no specific game you must play here. You can invent your own. You can have players carry papers with different coin values written on them. Play music as the players walk around. At any time, stop the music and shout out a number. Players must group up, adding their values to come as close to the shouted value as possible. OR... make a simple game board with squares progressing from start to finish. Put nickels, pennies, and a dime in a cup and have players shake the cup and dump it out on a table. Players must add (or subtract) the values of the 2 coins closest to them and then move that many squares on the board. Everyone will hope for that dime!</p>
5. Play a coin game. Different from above.	<p>Use your imagination to invent your own game using coins. Can you toss coins into a cup? Make it harder by making the cup farther away. Or shake things up by earning different point values based on what coin you throw. OR... see who can spin a coin on its side and keep it spinning for a longer time. OR... Put a coin on the toe of your shoe and try to kick that coin onto a target. OR... <i>anything you can imagine.</i></p>

<p>6. Create a balance scale.</p>	<p>Use the balance supplies listed above to build a balance scale as follows: On either end of the ruler/stirrer hang your cups using string and tape. Attach the binder clip in the middle of the ruler so the rings are aimed upward. Rest the pencil off the edge of a table, keeping it in place with the book. Hang the rings of the binder clip on the pencil so the cups dangle free of the table. Make adjustments to the position of the clip so that the cups hang evenly. <i>See image below...</i></p>
<p>7. Do a coin-weight investigation.</p>	<p>Using the scale you created above, compare the weights of different types of coins. Test the following: Put 5 pennies in one cup and a nickel in the other. Put 2 quarters in one cup and a 50-cent piece in the other. Use your math brains and notice that the cups weigh the same in both situations and the money value in both cups is the same, too. This won't always work. Try two nickels in one cup and a dime in the other. It won't balance.</p>

COIN BALANCE

Note: Plastic Easter egg halves were used instead of paper cups. The book is sitting on top of a pencil. And you don't need to use The Complete Works of William Shakespeare. Any large book will do.

