

Money games ideas

Younger children need to learn to recognise coins and to learn how much each coin is worth compared to others. Older children need to be confident with adding up different amounts.

Kim's game

Put coins of different values on a tray or plate. Let your child look at the coins and then cover them with a cloth or a piece of paper. Carefully take one coin out from the under the cloth (hiding it in your hand). Which coin is missing? (For older children take out two coins and ask, 'How much is missing?')

Fastest finger first::

Lay out a row of coins and call out the value of one of them. Who can put their finger on it first?

(You can make it into a competition by adding up the amounts the children have scored)

Give your child a handful of coins and ask them to put them in a row from the most value to the least.

Swap coins: How many 5p coins do you need to make 10p? How many 20p coins to make £1?

Hide a coin in each hand. Show your child one coin. 'I have ?p altogether' What is the other coin?

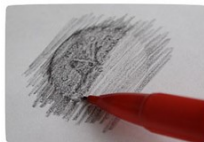
Let your child ask you the questions.

How many different ways can you make 20p? 50p?

I have 5 coins in my pocket.
How much could I have?

Play 'shops' with your child. Use real coins or draw coins on pieces of paper. Take it in turns to 'buy' and 'sell' things.

You could 'make' coins by putting a coin under a piece of paper and rubbing over it with a pencil or crayon, then cutting out the coin



You could cut out things to buy and sell from a magazine or catalogue.

Your child could draw things to buy and sell.

Nursery children should use pennies to make amounts up to 10p (you might have to help them with their counting). Reception children can go up to 20p

KS1 children should be able to combine 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins to make amounts up to 50p. Again, they might need help with this.

KS2 children should be able to buy two things and add up the cost, then pay with the right coins. Older children should be able to work out how much change they would get from £1, £5 and so on.