



**girl scouts**  
of greater chicago  
and northwest  
indiana

## Earning the Money Counts and Making Choices Daisy Leaves For Girls in Grades K-1

### SHOW ME THE MONEY ACTIVITY

With this activity you will learn about different types of coins!

1. Lay out piles of coins
2. Have your girl identify one of each type of coin.
3. Then talk about what is the same and what is different about each coin. Example questions:
  - a. Which coins are silver?
  - b. Which are copper/brown?
  - c. Which have the face pointing to the left? The right?
  - d. Which are more than 10 cents?
  - e. If possible, show examples of a half dollar and a dollar coin, and of bills (\$1, \$2, \$5, \$10 and \$20).
4. Share some fun facts about currency from the US Mint website ([usmint.gov/learn/kids](http://usmint.gov/learn/kids)).
  - a. For example: Mint marks show what minting facility your coins came from—"P" for Philadelphia, "D" for Denver, and "S" for San Francisco. This mark can be found to the right of the subject's face on the obverse side of each circulating coin—except for the "Philadelphia" Lincoln cent, which has no mint mark.
  - b. You can also show examples of other nations' currency.
5. Using the coin chart as reference, practice making different amounts of coins add up to each other.
  - a. For example, 5 pennies = 1 nickel; 2 nickels and 1 dime = 1 quarter, etc.



#### Supplies Needed

- Coin chart\*
- Real or play coins\*

#### Time to Complete

- 15 minutes

*\*Included in Money Counts Daisy Resource Packet*

## MONEY ART ACTIVITY

Learn about the different types of paper money!

1. Give your Girl Scout a pile of play money (or real money if you have it).
2. Tell them that they can make any kind of picture they want out of the money. Encourage them to make the picture three dimensional. Show examples like:
  - a. Make a face
  - b. Make a building
3. Once finished, have her sort coins into piles. Ask her to figure out how much her pictures are worth.



### Supplies Needed

- Real or play bills
- Example pictures\*
- Scrap paper
- Writing utensils

### Time to Complete

- 20-30 minutes

## MAIL MONEY GAME

Learn how money adds up! You'll need a printer and another person to assist with this game.

1. Have the girl play a "mail carrier" and the adult play "house."
2. Give the house player (adult) the printed mailboxes with a dollar amount on them.
3. Give the mail carrier (girl) the pile of mail with coins printed on them.
4. Have the "houses" (adult) spread out around whatever space you are in.
5. The mail carrier (girl) must deliver each piece of mail by figuring out how much the money on it is worth and matching it to the amount on written on each mailbox.
6. If desired, you can play this game multiple times.



### Supplies Needed

- Mailboxes\*
- Real or fake coins and dollar bills

### Time to Complete

- 20-30 minutes

*\*Included in Money Counts Daisy Resource Packet*

## NEEDS VS. WANTS GAME

With this activity you will learn the difference between needs and wants!

1. Find a somewhat open space to play a movement game.
2. Designate one side of the room as “Needs” and another as “Wants.”
3. One by one, call out items and ask if it’s a need or want and ask children to move to the “Needs” or “Wants” side.

Below are examples, and you can add your own:

Food	Chocolate	Video games
House	Television	Teddy bear
Car	Soap	Pillow
Clothes	Shoes	Gloves
Toys	Tennis Shoes	Boots
Broccoli	Basketball	Medicine

4. Once you have finished going through the list, reflect together.
  - Explain that usually when we give money or items to people, it should be for their needs.
  - Should we buy someone a TV if they don’t have a house?
  - Should we give them a chocolate bar if they don’t have milk and bread?
  - Remind them that it’s also nice to give people wants on special occasions, because everybody has wants.



### Supplies Needed

- An open space to move around

### Time to Complete

- 10 minutes

## SETTING GOALS ACTIVITY

Try setting a goal to save for what you want!

1. Give your child a piece of construction paper and drawing implements.
2. Explain that making a goal can help them save money and creating a visual of that goal can help even more!
3. Ask each child to brainstorm something they’d like to save money for. Then ask them to draw a picture of that item. Once the picture is drawn, they can hang up the picture and use it as inspiration to help them save money. Have each child tell you why they drew that item/goal.
4. Help your Girl Scout figure out how many weeks it would take to reach her goal if she saved \$5 a week.
  - For example, if something costs \$20 and they save \$5 a week, they will be able to buy it in just 4 weeks! Help each girl figure out how many weeks it would take to reach their goal if they saved \$5 a week.



### Supplies Needed

- Construction paper
- Crayons, markers or colored pencils

### Time to Complete

- 20 minutes

## SHOPPING CHALLENGE

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Put these ideas into action!

1. The adult will serve as the shopkeeper, while the child gets to go shopping!
2. Put price tags on items around your house.
3. Give your child a set 'budget' and see if they can afford to buy a certain list of items from around the house with the money they have. Depending on how they like the game, you can always play with different budgets or different lists.
4. If you think your child is ready, they can be the shopkeeper and practice giving change.



### Supplies Needed

- Money, real or play
- Price tags for household items

### Time to Complete

- 30 minutes or more



**ONCE YOUR GIRL SCOUT COMPLETES THESE ACTIVITIES, THEY HAVE EARNED THE MAKING CHOICES AND MONEY COUNTS LEAVES!**

**Leaves can be purchased at [shopgirlscouts.com](http://shopgirlscouts.com)**



**NOT A GIRL SCOUT? NOT A PROBLEM!  
LEARN MORE ABOUT JOINING!  
[girlscoutsgcnwi.org/join](http://girlscoutsgcnwi.org/join)**

**Penny: 1¢**



**Nickel: 5¢**



**Dime: 10¢**



**Quarter: 25¢**



**Half Dollar: 50¢**



**Dollar: \$1.00**



Use with the Money Art Activity from the Earning Money Counts Daisy Leaf



Use with the Mail Money Game from the Earning Money Counts Daisy Leaf















































