



# **Understanding Australian coins**

In this lesson students learn about Australian coins, their features, and their value.



#### Students:

- understand what Australian coins look like, their value and their purpose
- identify and describe the features and value of Australian coins
- make simple calculations using coins



Curriculum links v9.0

### **English**

AC9E1LY02

#### **Mathematics**

AC9M1A01

AC9M1N06

AC9M2N04

### **HASS**

AC9HS6K08

## **Technologies:**

AC9TDE2K01

AC9TDE2P01

#### The Arts

AC9AVA2C01



## General Capabilities

## Numeracy

Understanding money Level 1-4

Number patterns and algebraic thinking Level 1

## Other resources

Lower Primary | Royal Australian Mint (ramint.gov.au)

Making money amounts (aitsl.edu.au)

# Getting started (10-15 mins)

## What are Australian coins and how are they used?

Open a discussion with your class about their familiarity with coins.

- Show your students a selection of coins and ask them if they know what they are.
- · How do people use coins?
- Talk to students about spending: How do people in their family use coins? How do other people they know use coins?
- Talk to students about savings: Where do people keep coins? Why do people save coins? Do students have coins they are saving?

# Discovery (20-35 mins)

## **Exploring coins**

Encourage students to engage with the features of Australian coins.

- Consider doing a 'coin rubbing' with a crayon and paper or use the pictured coins from **Worksheet 1**, to discuss, trace over, or cut out.
- Ask students to look closely at each coin consider the features of the coins (the size, the shape, the picture, the colour, etc.).
- · How are the coins similar? How are they different?
- Ask students to play a guessing game with a partner. Taking turns, students describe a coin until their partner guesses correctly.

### Additional exploration

- · Who/what is featured on each coin?
- · Choose a worksheet from the Royal Australian Mint.
- Find examples of what coins from other countries look like. Students may want to bring in a unique coin they have at home to share with the class.

## Understanding the value of coins

Help students understand the value of each coin.

- · Ask students to place coins in a row (from smallest to largest in **size**).
  - > Which is the smallest coin? Which is the largest coin?
  - Discuss why coins are different shapes.
- · Ask students to place coins in a row (from smallest to largest in value).
  - Which coin has the smallest value? Which coin has the highest value?

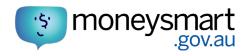




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# Extension (5-20mins)

- · What is the total value when you add up all the Australian coins?
- Ask students how many ways they could combine coins to make \$2 (e.g., \$2 coin, 2 x \$1 coin, 4 x 50c).
- Design a new coin. Choose the shape, value, material, colour and images. Explain its value compared to other coins and share the designs.
- · Coin history with the Royal Australian Mint.



# Worksheet 1: Australian coins







































