Penny Explains

Key Stage 2 · Years 3 and 4 | Money basics | About 25 minutes



What is money?

From swapping eggs to tapping a card: why do we use money?

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____ Score: / 27

I can...

- ☐ I can say what money is and what we use it for.
- ☐ I can explain why swapping things was tricky.
- ☐ I can count a small pile of coins.

Key words

Money: what we use to pay for things.

Barter: to swap one thing for another without using money.

Coin: a small piece of metal money.

Note: paper or plastic money, like a £5 note.

1 Tilly's swap trouble

5 points

Tilly lived long, long ago. Use the words in the box to finish her story. Use each word once.

sleep | money | swap | coins | buy | want

Long ago there was no _____. People had to _____ one thing for another. This is called bartering. Tilly had eggs and wanted bread. But the baker did not _____ any eggs, so there was no swap! Then people made metal _____. Now Tilly could sell her eggs and _____ bread from anyone.

2 True or false?

4 points

Circle True or False.

We use money to pay for things.	True	False
Bartering means swapping things without using money.	True	False
You must spend money on the day you get it.	True	False
Every coin is worth the same amount.	True	False

3 The story of money

5 points

How did money change over time? Number the boxes from 1 (the oldest) to 5 (the newest).

Penny says: Money is easy to swap, easy to count and easy to carry. Clever!

- [ ] People swapped things, like eggs for bread.
- [ ] Paper notes were made. They were lighter than a bag of coins.
- [ ] People began to use metal coins.
- [ ] Plastic bank cards were invented.
- [ ] People began to pay with their phones.

4 What would you do?

3 points

Read the story, then answer the questions.

Tilly has **6 eggs**. She wants a **pair of shoes**. The shoemaker says, "I do not want eggs. I want a **warm hat**." Tilly does not have a hat.

a) Why can Tilly not get the shoes? 1 mark

b) What would you do if you were Tilly? Why? 2 marks

5 Count the coins

3 points

Now Tilly sells her eggs for coins! How much money is in each row?

a) 10p 5p 2p **Total:** _____

b) 50p 20p 20p 2p **Total:** _____

c) £1 50p 10p **Total:** _____

6 Unscramble the money words

5 points

The letters are mixed up. Use the clue to work out each word.

S A W P	Give one thing and get another thing back	☐☐☐☐
I N C O	A small piece of metal money	☐☐☐☐
E T O N	Paper or plastic money, like £5	☐☐☐☐
P R E C I	How much something costs	☐☐☐☐☐
M Y O E N	We use it to pay for things	☐☐☐☐☐

7 Design your own coin

2 points

Draw your own coin. Give it a number and a picture, then label them.



Penny says: Real UK coins show the head of the King or Queen on one side.

8 Before you go

One thing I learned today

_____

_____

One question I still have

_____

_____

How sure do I feel?

☹ Not yet ☐ Getting there ☺ Got it



Take it home

Ask a grown-up to show you some coins. Can you find a **1p**, a **10p** and a **£1**? Which one would buy the most?

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