

## U.S. Mint Coin Classroom Lesson Plan: Check, Please!



# Check, Please!

**Subject:** Math

**Grade Level:** 4<sup>th</sup> grade

**Summary:** Using Amy Axelrod's *Pigs Will Be Pigs: Fun with Math and Money* as a reference, students calculate how much money the pigs in the book find and spend. Then they determine how else to spend the money at a restaurant and create posters showing their menu orders.

## BIG QUESTION

How do we use money to buy a meal at a restaurant?

## TIMING

90 to 120 minutes

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students will begin to understand our numeration system by relating counting, grouping, and place value concepts.
- Students will use a variety of mental computation and estimation techniques
- Students will select and use computation techniques appropriate to specific problems and determine whether the results are reasonable.

## MATERIALS

- 1 copy of the book *Pigs Will Be Pigs: Fun with Math and Money* by Amy Axelrod or read aloud video (link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRLn9VNSPuA>)
- Poster paper
- Pencils and pens
- Play or real dollars and coins as manipulatives
- Calculators

## PROCEDURE

1. Read *Pigs Will be Pigs* aloud to your students or play a read aloud video.
2. Break the class into groups of four. Tell the students that you are going to reread the book, and that their challenge is to determine just how much money the pigs found and spent. Hand out manipulatives and/or calculators.
3. Reread the story, pausing as needed so students can calculate the amount of money the pigs found as well as their final restaurant bill.

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4. As a class, ask the groups to share their calculations of how much money the pigs had left after their meal. Have them explain the strategies they used to determine their answers.
5. Using the menu included in the book, have each group place a different order for its "table"—one that satisfies everyone and also stays within the available funds. Then have the groups create a poster showing what they ordered, the total cost of their meal, and the amount of money they have left over.
6. Share the posters with the class.

## ASSESSMENT

- Use the written calculations to determine whether the students were able to successfully calculate the amount of money the pigs found and spent.
- Use a standard rubric to judge the merits of the poster. Have it include any criteria set by you or the students at the start of the activity.

## DIFFERENTIATE

Allow students to work individually if they need an additional challenge.

## RELATED

- U.S. Mint Coin Classroom Game, [Counting with Coins](#)
- U.S. Mint Coin Classroom Activity, [Cents-able Shopping](#)

## STANDARDS

### Common Core Standards

#### [CCSS.Math.Content.4.MD.A.1](#)

Know relative sizes of measurement units within one system of units. Within a single system of measurement, express measurements in a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit.