

The Dollar Game

Level 1

The game is designed for children 4, 5 and 6 years old.

One child and an adult instructor, or 2 or 3 play at a time with adult supervision.

The Dollar Game Level 1 is the second step of a 2 year journey where the child learns to master the basic addition and subtraction facts. The child plays a series of games and associated activities while learning.

By playing **The Dollar Game Level 1**, the child learns how to organize pennies into groups of ten's and one's. By counting pennies and placing them into groups, the child learns to recognize and say the numbers from 1 to 100.

These organizing skills are used in the games and activities that follow in the process of learning. **The Dollar Game Level 1** is just another step. Moving to the next game or activity at the appropriate time involves a good acquaintance with **The Dollar Game Level 1** but not complete mastery of all the skills presented in the game.



To Play The Dollar Game Level 1

The Dollar Game Level 1 consists of:

- 4 Game Dollars
- 2 decahedrons (10-sided dice)
- 5 counter sheets containing 360 paper pennies
- 2 sheets containing 36, 10-penny wraps
- 1 box labeled “*Borrowing Exchange.*”

Before playing, remove the individual pennies from their sheet. Next, cut out and glue the 10-penny wraps. Now the wraps form cylinder shapes which will hold 10 pennies (glue not included). *See illustrated directions.*

- 1** Each player receives a game dollar and a die.
Place the loose pennies in the middle of the players.
- 2** In round 1, play begins with each player (individually or all at once) throwing their die to determine the number of pennies to take from the center pile. Each player counts out loud the number of the penny (1, 2, 3,...) as he takes the pennies to his *Game Dollar*.
- 3** In the following rounds, each player repeats the steps in round 1 combining these new pennies with the pennies already on the *Game Dollar*.

Each player has to answer the question, "Do you now have 10 pennies?" by counting out loud the pennies on the *Game Dollar*.



- 4 If the player has 10 pennies, the player makes a stack and wraps the stack in a 10-penny wrap. The player folds the ends to hold the pennies.
- 5 Place each 10 penny stack in order 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100 on the *Game Dollar*. Keep any remaining pennies with the *Game Dollar* for the next round.

As the first game is played, each player is making 10 wrapped stacks of 10 pennies as he covers the *Game Dollar*.

- 6 The final round is played when a player has obtained 100 pennies or 1 dollar. All players who reach 100 on that final round are the winners. The object of the game is not only to be first, but more importantly to arrive at 100.

Keep all the wrapped pennies in the *Borrowing Exchange*. The next time the game is played, place the *Borrowing Exchange* in the middle of the players next to the loose pennies. In all succeeding games when a player has 10 loose pennies, the player will exchange them for 10 wrapped pennies from the *Borrowing Exchange*.



Questions to Ask Players During Game Play

- 1 How many pennies do you now have on the *Game Dollar*? Eventually, the child will be able to say the number with a quick glance.
- 2 Who has the most pennies and how many do they have?
- 3 How many pennies do you need to make a ten?
- 4 How many stacks of ten do you need to make a dollar?

Strategy: Place 9, 10-penny rolls in the cup with more loose pennies beside the cup. Ask the child to show a specific number of pennies between 10 and 100.

As the child's instructor, you will discover many more ways to utilize these materials.

