**Title:** Money Egg-Hunt

**Appropriate Grade Level: 2**

**Activity Objective:**

The objective of this activity is to encourage students to practice counting and adding money.

**Materials**:

* At least 3 plastic eggs
* At least $1.50 in coins (make sure to include quarters, dimes, nickels, pennies)
* 1 piece of paper
* 1 pencil

**Concept Description:**

Students will participate in a scavenger hunt for plastic eggs with coins in them. They will practice identifying different coin amounts and adding them all together. They will learn how to write the total amount in dollars (e.g., $1.06).

**Louisiana Grade Level Standards:**

2. C. Work with time and money.

8. Solve word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies, using $ and ¢ symbols appropriately. Example: If you have 2 dimes and 3 pennies, how many cents do you have?

(Louisiana Department of Education, 2017)

**Rationale:**

This activity combines the skill of investigation with counting money in an engaging way that can be easily applied to real-world scenarios. This concept is used during any financial transaction using coins and bills.

**Careers**:

Cashiers, bank tellers, and waiters/waitresses can all be connected to this concept. (O\*NET, 2022).

* Cashiers: Cashiers add the costs of products together to charge the correct amount to the customer. They also give correct change when a customer is making a purchase. At the beginning and end of their shifts, they count all of the money and balance out the cash register.
  + https://www.bls.gov/ooh/sales/cashiers.htm
* Bank tellers: Tellers count and balance coins, currency, and checks during shifts and at the end of each shift by hand or using a computer/counting machine.
  + https://www.bls.gov/ooh/office-and-administrative-support/tellers.htm
* Waiter/waitresses: Waiters/waitresses serve tables at a restaurant/food establishment. They give correct change to customers who pay with cash and count their cash tips at the end of each shift.
  + https://www.bls.gov/ooh/food-preparation-and-serving/waiters-and-waitresses.htm

**Learn More:**

1. Additional Activity: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syDUSCPpAx0>
2. Cost Free: If using actual money is a barrier for some families, it is easy to adapt this activity using socks and small objects. Instead of coins, assign a money value to four different types of small objects. For example: one Cheerio equals one penny, one colored noodle equals one nickel, etc. If you don’t have plastic eggs on hand, you can put the small objects in socks, or any other opaque container. Then, proceed with the activity as instructed.
3. Art Gallery Extension: If your student really loves this activity and/or art, complete this activity as often as you would like. Then, at the end of each time you complete the activity, have your child exchange the coins they found for art supplies. Your student will then create a piece of artwork that will essentially be “worth” the amount of money they found. Then, after a couple of pieces of artwork have been created, invite family members, neighbors, friends, and/or siblings to take a gallery walk and purchase their artwork.

**Instructions**:

1. Engage your student. If coins are not appealing or available, adapt to their interests (e.g., tiny dinosaurs equal one cent).
2. Gather materials.
3. Fill plastic eggs with various combinations of coins
4. Hide plastic eggs around the house.
5. Encourage your student to find plastic eggs independently. If your student struggles with locating the objects, give them hints or tell them if they are “hot” (getting closer to the object) or “cold” (moving farther away from the object).
6. Once your student has found all of the hidden eggs, have them empty the contents of the eggs into separate piles.
7. Starting with the quarters, have your student count and add up the change from each pile.
8. Help your student with writing the total from each pile using $ and cent signs.
9. Add the total from each pile using a piece of paper.

**Demonstration:**

Link to YouTube video demonstration: <https://youtu.be/nqU9CW9vS3w>