

*Narrator 1: One Cent, Two Cents, Old Cent, New Cent
By Bonnie Worth*

*Narrator 2: I'm the Cat in the Hat
and you know something funny?
We're about to have fun
learning all about money!*

*Narrator 3: Where does it come from?
Can you answer that, please?
I will give you a hint:
It does not grow on trees!*

*Narrator 4: Just one penny each
it will cost you to see
the Museum of Money.
Step up and pay me!*

*Narrator 5: People bartered to buy things
in ancient times.
They did not have pennies,
or nickels, or dimes.*

*Narrator 6: This meant that a beekeeper
might want to swap
his store of honey
for a farmer's wheat crop.*

*Narrator 1: If the farmer liked honey,
a deal could be struck.
If the farmer liked jam,
it was the keeper's bad luck.*

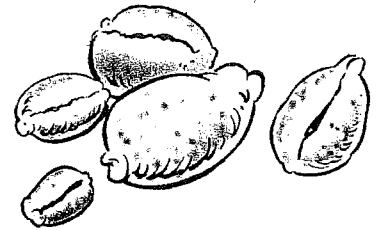
*Narrator 2: People would fight
over deals that they made.
Was this a good swap?
Did I make a fair trade?*

Narrator 3: *Perhaps that is why
money was invented.
It was easier to use
and decay was prevented.*

Narrator 4: *It was easy to carry
and count, and what's more,
it was easy to save
and was easy to store.*

Narrator 5: *What's an old form of money?
I'm so glad you asked me.
I'll give you a hint:
it came from the sea.*

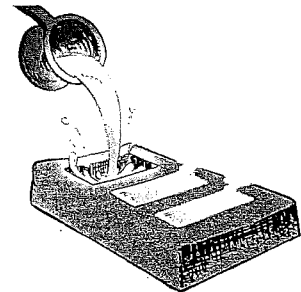
Narrator 6: *Seashells were used
to barter and trade.
A handful of shells
and you had it made!*



Narrator 1: *Feathers and eggs
and leather and jade
are some other things
from which money was made.*

Narrator 2: *But eggs could get scrambled
and leather got dirty.
Money needed to last
and be solid and sturdy.*

Narrator 3: *So people mined ore—
copper, silver, and gold.
They melted it down,
poured it into a mold.*

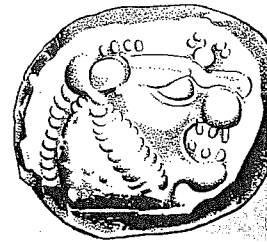


Narrator 4: *In the shape of a bar
these ingots were made.
Folks hauled them around
and would use them in trade.*

Narrator 5: In the kingdom of Lydia, part of Turkey, you see, the Lydians made ingots in 900 BC.

Narrator 6: Then someone in Lydia had a brainstorm: Make metal coins! (A far handier form!)

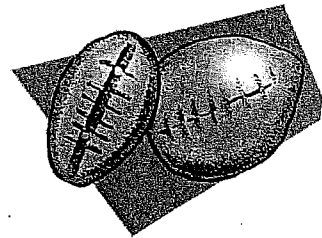
Narrator 1: We've dug up these coins all over the place. Each coin has a lion's head stamped on its face.



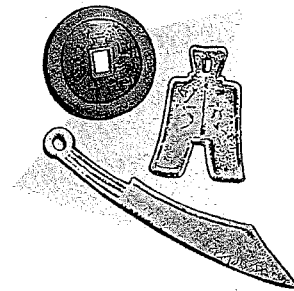
Narrator 2: The Lydians were sailors, and you may have read that's how the use of their coins might have spread.

Narrator 3: Here is a fact I am happy to tell you: Folks other places began to make coins, too.

Narrator 4: In China, the farthest of Far Eastern places, some coins shaped like cowries had lines on their faces.



Narrator 5: Other coins contained holes for a string to pass through. So coins could be carried together with you.



Narrator 6: A string of such coins added up to a cache. You tied up the string on a belt or a sash.

Narrator 1: *In Greece, they stamped coins with various things, like a picture of Pegasus, the horse who had wings.*



Narrator 2: *This coin has an owl on its face, and my guess is it stood for Athena, the wisest goddess.*



Narrator 3: *Now even today some heads of state put their heads onto coins like Caesar the great.*



Narrator 4: *Here is a fact that we think is so neat.
Money's made in a mint.
(Not the kind that you eat!)*

Narrator 5: *Thing One and Thing Two are about to mint dimes.
Mints work much the same as in ancient times.*

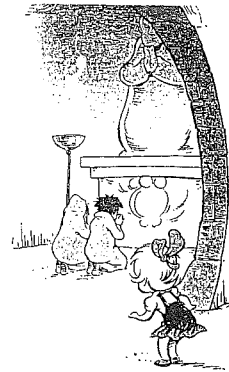
Narrator 6: *How to Make a Dime
One Step at a Time!
(This is brought to you by Thing One and Thing Two!)*

Narrator 1: *1. Heat metals together until they are hot and melted to goop inside of the pot.*

Narrator 2: *2. Pour goop in a cast, also known as a mold.
3. Strike goop with an image before it turns cold.*

Narrator 3: 4. Remove from the cast.
(Oh, isn't this funny?)
Time to have fun with
your shiny new money!

Narrator 4: Ancients kept money where
they prayed and gave thanks.
In this way the temples
became the first banks.



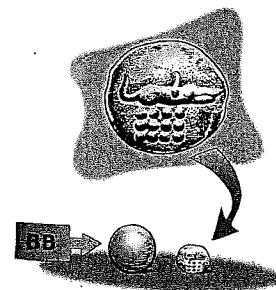
Narrator 5: To temple you went
to save or to borrow
for as long as two years
or as short as tomorrow.

Narrator 6: Interest is the name
for the fee that you owe
to the bank for the money
they loan you, you know.

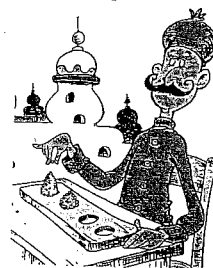
Narrator 1: When your money is saved
in a savings account,
the bank then pays you
a smallish amount.

Narrator 2: This smallish amount
that the bank pays to you
is the interest you've earned,
and it's only your due.

Narrator 3: The smallest coin ever
is so hard to see!
(See the Indian fanam
next to that BB?)



Narrator 4: You would think that they might
lose count of their hoard,
but dents in some wood
make a neat counting board.



Narrator 5:

From the islands of Yap
come the heaviest ones:
Limestone coins eight feet wide,
each weighing three tons!

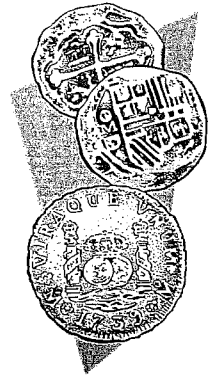


Narrator 6:

Carrying these coins,
some Yap ships sank.
Could you fit a Yap coin
in your piggy bank?

Narrator 1:

Traveling to parts
of the New World with me
here are some Spanish coins
I would like you to see.



Narrator 2:

Spain's explorers sent home
from the New World as freight
golden doubloons
and pieces of eight.

Narrator 3:

The most valuable coins
in those parts were these.
To steal them, some pirates
sailed all seven seas.



Narrator 4:

American settlers
minted coins such as these,
stamped with the image
of local trees.

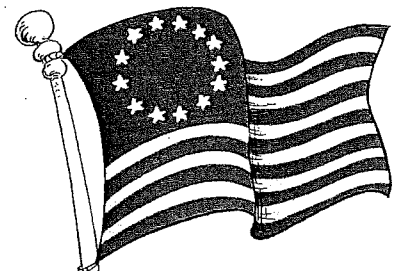
Narrator 5:

For money, the natives
strung seashells and beads
into belts of wampum
for their trading needs.



Narrator 6:

When it became
a new nation and free,
the United States minted
its own currency.



Narrator 1: I have some with me
(as you see, I have many).
The kind that I have is
the little red penny.



Narrator 2: It was made in the year
seventeen ninety-three.
Here's one that's a half-cent
you might like to see!



Narrator 3: Here is another one.
It's also red.
It's the penny we know
as the Indian Head.



Narrator 4: In nineteen oh nine (that's the year
I am thinkin'),
we began to mint pennies
with the face of Abe Lincoln.

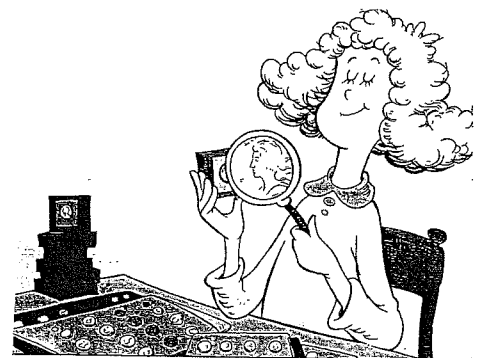


Narrator 5: During World War Two
(a brave time, I do feel),
pennies were made
out of zinc-coated steel.

Narrator 6: We needed the copper
for wartime, but then
after the war
we used copper again.

Narrator 1: Some pennies I've shown you
from so long ago
are worth nearly
one thousand dollars or so!

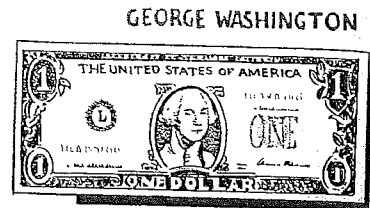
Narrator 2: Here is a great word
you can add to your list:
A collector of coins
is a numismatist!



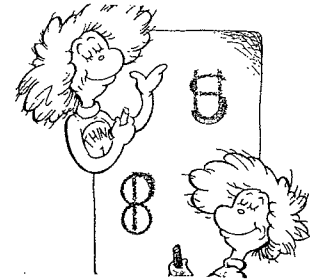
Narrator 3: Pennies to dollars . . .
we mint the whole range
But mostly we use all
these coins to make change.

Narrator 4: It's paper that's king,
but paper gets rotten,
so we make paper money
from linen and cotton.

Narrator 5: When you study your money
(and these days, who bothers?),
you will find on it faces
of our nation's fathers.

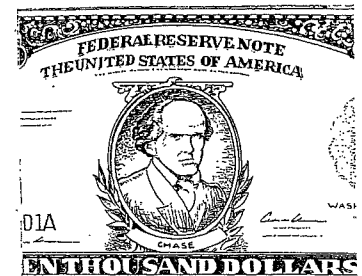


Narrator 6: What's the dollar sign mean?
Could it be? Take a guess!
Does it come from a U
printed under an S?



Narrator 1: My numismatist friend
has told me of late
it might come from the
Spanish pieces of eight.

Narrator 2: On the ten thousand bill
you will find the face
of Abe Lincoln's treasurer,
Salmon Portland Chase!



Narrator 3: Will you find one around?
No, you probably won't.
They no longer print bills
of this size. No, they don't.

Narrator 4: If they print them again,
do you think maybe that
they might use the face of . . .

All: . . . the Cat in the Hat?!?

