



Stuart J. Murphy's
MathStart[®]

Sluggers' Car Wash
Level 3 / Ages 7+
Dollars and Cents



Counting change is an important skill needed for everyday life.

Story Description

The 21st Street Sluggers have a problem: Their t-shirts are all worn and dirty. And that won't do at all for playing against the 7th Avenue Spitfires. How can they raise some money fast? A car wash! First, the Sluggers pool their money to buy supplies. Then they set up an assembly line. CJ keeps track of the money. That's easy when the man in the convertible gives him 2 dollar bills, 4 quarters, 4 dimes and 2 nickels: \$3.50 is the exact amount. But then Will's Mom gives him a \$5 bill. Can he figure out the correct change? Counting change is an important skill needed for everyday life.

Illustrated by Barney Saltzberg.

Activities

- As you read the story, help your child (or students) understand what is happening on the clipboard. Cover up the totals and ask questions such as, "How much was spent on supplies?" or "How much did the children have after they washed Will's mother's car?"
- Using catalog or newspaper inserts, have your child (or students) pretend to go shopping. Give each child 10 dollars (a mix of bills and coins) either in real money or play money. Let them select items to "buy." After "buying" each item, have them set aside the money spent and count up how much remains.
- When you go out to eat, have your child make a selection from the menu, and tell you how much it will cost. Name an amount higher than the meal's price and ask what the change should be.



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