Shopping List Maths: Adding Coins in Year 1

Key points

- Children in Year 1 (children aged 5 to 6) learn to recognise different UK coins and their values.
- They practice adding two small amounts together to find a total, usually up to 20p.
- A key skill is matching that total amount to the actual coins needed to pay for items.
- This helps children see how the maths they learn in the classroom works in the real world.
- Every school may teach these skills in a slightly different order, so feel free to ask your child's teacher for more detail.

Things to try at home

- While shopping, pick two small items and ask your child to help you add the prices together.
- Lay out a few different coins and ask your child to find which ones would pay for a snack.
- Set up a 'home shop' with a few toys and use real or play coins to buy two things at a time.
- Count out coins together while waiting in a queue to see if you have enough for a treat.

Find out more

- Your child's class teacher or the school's maths lead.
- The official GOV.UK website for information on the National Curriculum.