

Current Currency, Past Currency & Math



sample items from the kit

This popular kit explores the many forms of currency through human history, from the early barter of livestock through coins, paper bills and credit cards, presented through engaging mini-exhibits, objects and books. Currencies from virtually every corner of the globe are represented, lending to the study of geography as well. Different cultures' ideas of ownership, generosity and trade are represented, highlighting both commonalities and surprising differences.

Includes mini-exhibits on early currencies such as shell money and cocoa beans, cultural traditions of money and generosity, and contemporary "plastic money". Tiny objects such as coins are presented in formats that easily allow close examination without loss or damage. CMLC Info Cards detailing each object's cultural history are included, as well as a world map and 3 children's books illustrating the same math concept told in the folk stories of 3 separate cultures.

Highlights: Hundreds of coins from over 40 countries (a few over 100 years old), colorful bills from over 20 countries; mini-diorama of early bartering, scale model (cloth) of giant rai stone money (6 foot across). Mini Pacific Northwest Coast "Copper" by contemporary Tlingit artist with material on potlatch traditions, local Corvallis HOURS currency.

Appropriate for K-12 through Adult

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Additional materials you might like to provide: 10 lb bag of rice and chessboard to attempt the (impossible) math problem illustrated in the 3 story books.