Name: _____ Date: _____

Counting Up to Make Change

Circle group

Sam sells pencils at the school sale. A pencil costs sixty cents. A girl gives Sam a dollar. A dollar is one hundred cents. Sam gives her change.

Change is the money you give back. It is for when someone pays more than the price.

Sam counts up. He starts at sixty. He adds a nickel. A nickel is five cents. That is sixty-five. He adds a nickel. That is seventy. He adds a dime for eighty, a dime for ninety, and a dime for one hundred.

Sam gives back two nickels and three dimes. That is forty cents. The girl smiles.

Questions

1. How much does a pencil cost?

_____

_____

2. What is change?

_____

_____

3. How much is a nickel worth?

_____

_____

4. How much change does Sam give back?

_____

_____

5. Why does Sam start counting at sixty?

_____

_____

Words to know

change: the money you get back when you pay too much
nickel: a coin that is worth five cents
price: how much money something costs

sale: a time when things are sold

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Counting Up to Make Change

Triangle group

Sam is selling pencils at the school sale. One pencil costs sixty cents. A girl hands Sam a dollar. A dollar is worth one hundred cents. Sam must give her some change.

Change is the money you give back when someone pays more than the price. How can Sam figure it out?

Sam can count up. He starts at the price, sixty cents. He adds a nickel. A nickel is worth five cents. Now he says sixty-five. He adds another nickel to make seventy. Then he adds a dime and says eighty. Another dime makes ninety, and one more makes one hundred.

Sam gives back two nickels and three dimes. That is forty cents in all. The girl smiles. She paid one hundred cents and got forty cents back, so the pencil cost sixty cents.

Questions

1. How much does one pencil cost?

_____

_____

2. What is change?

_____

_____

3. How much is a nickel worth?

_____

_____

4. How much change does Sam give back in all?

_____

_____

5. Why does Sam start counting at sixty cents?

_____

_____

Words to know

change: the money you get back when you pay too much
nickel: a coin that is worth five cents
price: how much money something costs
sale: a time when things are sold

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Counting Up to Make Change

Square group

Sam is selling pencils at the school sale, and each pencil costs sixty cents. A girl hands Sam a dollar, which is worth one hundred cents, so Sam has to give her some change.

Change is the money you return when a customer pays more than the price. How can Sam work out the right amount?

He can count up, beginning at the price of sixty cents. First he adds a nickel, which is worth five cents, and says sixty-five. He adds another nickel to reach seventy. Then he adds a dime and says eighty, another dime for ninety, and one more dime to make one hundred.

Sam gives back two nickels and three dimes, which is forty cents in all. The girl smiles. She paid one hundred cents and received forty back, so the pencil cost sixty.

Questions

1. How much does each pencil cost?

_____

_____

2. What is change?

_____

_____

3. How much is a nickel worth?

_____

_____

4. How much change does Sam give back in all?

_____

_____

5. Why does Sam begin counting at sixty cents?

_____

_____

Words to know

change: the money you get back when you pay too much
nickel: a coin that is worth five cents
price: how much money something costs
sale: a time when things are sold

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Counting Up to Make Change

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Counting Up to Make Change

Easier · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1

1. Sixty cents.
2. The money you give back when someone pays more than the price.
3. Five cents.
4. Forty cents.
5. Sixty is the price, and he counts up from it.

Triangle: Counting Up to Make Change

This passage · 136 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.7

1. Sixty cents.
2. The money you give back when someone pays more than the price.
3. Five cents.
4. Forty cents.
5. Sixty cents is the price, and he counts up from it to the amount paid.

Square: Counting Up to Make Change

Harder · 139 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.9

1. Sixty cents.
2. The money you return when a customer pays more than the price.
3. Five cents.
4. Forty cents.
5. Sixty cents is the price, and he counts up from it to the amount paid.