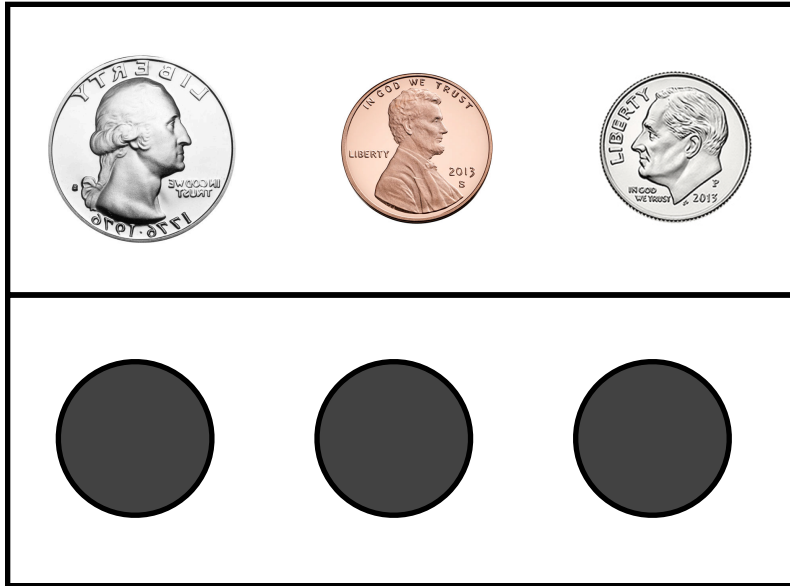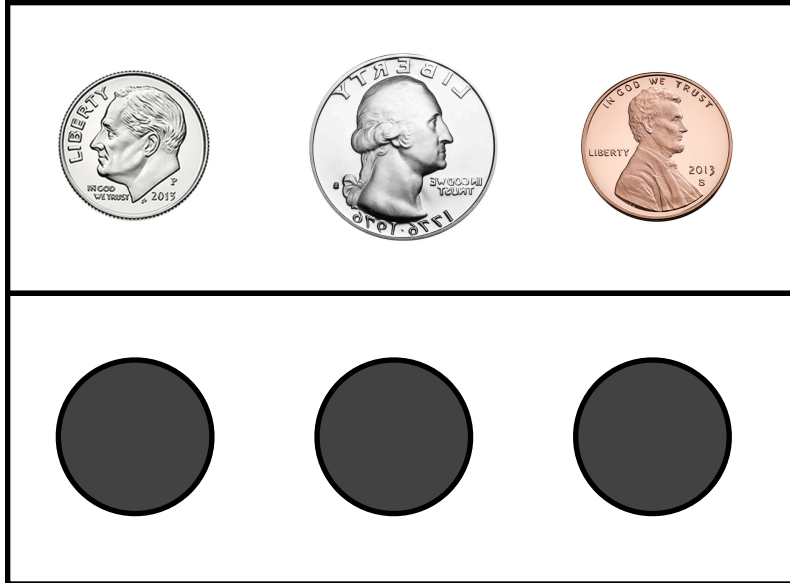# 3 Coin Prediction

1.   Take the prediction card out and lay the card down on the desk with the dots facing up. Do not show the students the bottom of the card but as you lay the card down note which ends the dime and quarter are on.

2.   Have them place the penny on any of the three dots. Say that this is where we will start the penny.

2A. If they put the penny on the middle dot then the trick works without moving the penny.

2B. If the put the penny on a dot at either end of the row say "you have chosen to start the coin at this spot. Now spell out the word P E N N Y (spell it for them). Now say "You will move the coin 1 dot each time you spell a letter. You can choose go in any direction as long as you move 1space for each letter" (The penny will always end up in the center dot.)

3A.   If the student **placed the penny on the middle dot at the start** then ask the student to chose either remaining coin and place it **on** 1 of the remaining unused dots (they will be at either end of the row). Have them select the last remaining coin and place it on the remaining unused dot (it will bet on a dot at the end of the row).

3B.   If the student **placed the penny on a dot at the end of a row and spelled it to the middle dot t**hen give the student a dime and tell them to place it **on** 1 of the remaining unused dots (they will be at either end of the row). Now spell out the word D I M E (spell it for them). Now say "You will move the coin 1 space each time you spell a letter. You can choose go in any direction as long as you move 1 space for each letter and land on a dot" (The dime will always end up it where it started.) Have them select the quarter and place it on the remaining unused space (it will bet on a dot at the end of the row).

4.   Now state that you predicted where the coins would end up before you started. Point out that the student chose where to place the penny. If they placed the penny the spelled to find the coin's location then also say " you also chose the movement of the penny and dime and yet I think I have predicted the coins locations.

5.   Slide the card out from under the coins (you may need to hold them in place with your fingers as you slide the card out. As you slide the card out start to flip it over parallel to the coins. As you do this and look at the picture of the coins. If they match the real coins continue to flip the card over and shot the match. If they do not match flip the card end to end , lay it down and show they match. Note: It works better if you note the direction of the coins as you lay down the card to start the trick. Then you can flip the card the correct direction without looking.

Preparation:

Cut out the card. Fold the card in half with the coins and dots facing out and tape the card. Have a penny, dime and quarter.
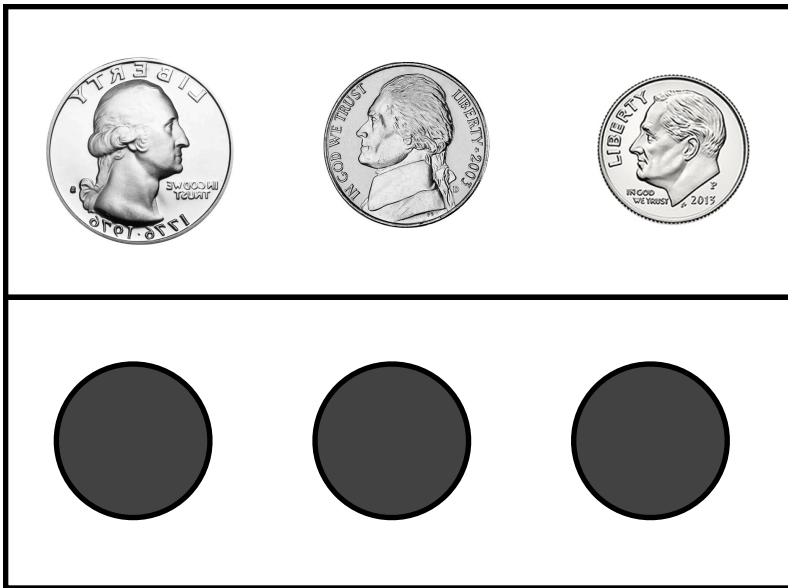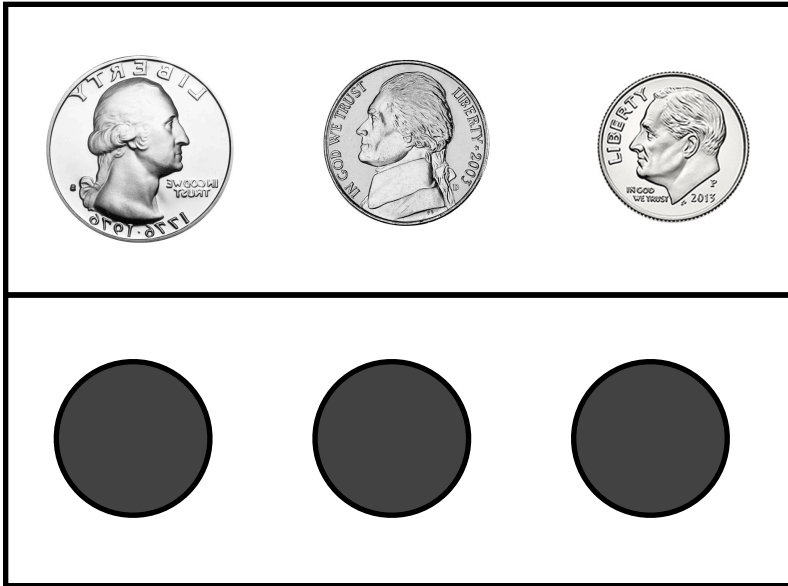

Optional card: I like to have the quarter in the middle. I start with the quarter and spell Q U A R T E R if needed. Then us either dime and then the penny.
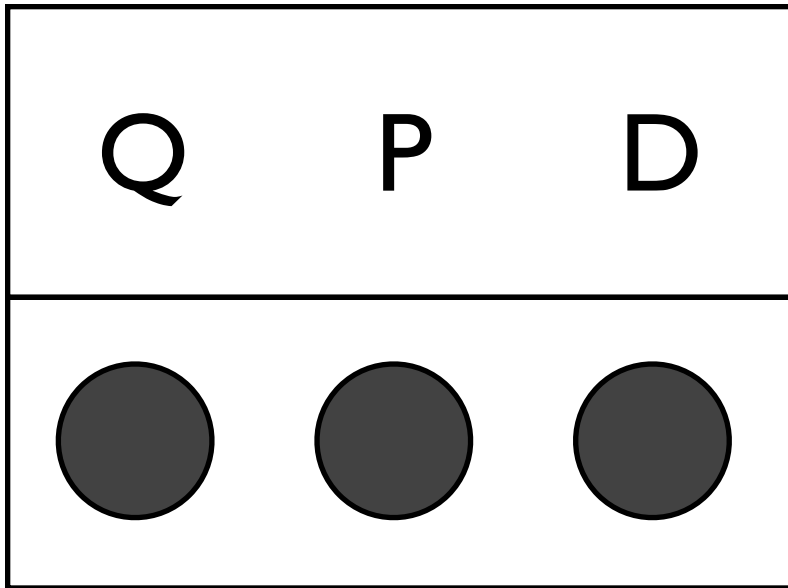

I use the card with the penny and to the trick 2 or 3 times. I then drop the card and coins in my shirt pocket. I have placed a card with the quarter in the middle in that pocket prior to starting the trick. I ask them if they want to see the trick one more time. I then take out the coins and the card with the quarter in the middle. The students really are surprised when the new prediction has the quarter in the middle.

You can use a nickel in place of the penny or quarter. It os also spelled with an odd number of letters.

Optional card: You may like a card with only the lettres for the coins prediction.

No card needed option: Take out a piece of paper and write the letter   Q P D one one side and place 3 dots on the other. You can do this almost on the spur of the moment and then perform the trick.

How does this work?

The prediction card has a penny in the center and the other 2 coins at the ends. The word penny is spelled with 5 letters. 5 is an odd number. Think of the dots as being numbered 1 2 and 3 with 2 as the center number. If you start with that coin then the coin may be placed in the center which matches the card. If it is placed at either end then the coin start at an odd number dot. Moving the coin 5 times forces the penny onto an even space which is the the middle space. It either case the penny ends up in the center. The dime is used next. It must be placed on a dot at either end as the middle space is used by the penny. The word D I M E has 4 letters which is an even number. The dime that is on an odd space and moving it 4 times leaves it on an odd space which is at one of the end spaces. That leaves the quarter to be places at the other end.

The coins on the prediction card either math the order of the coins the student placed down or are a horizontal flip of the order.

You can start with the quarter in stead of a penny because it is also spelled with an odd number of letters. The dims must always be used second as it is spelled with an even number of letters forcing it to one end. The last coin is placed in the only open space and no spelling is used to move it so the fact it is spelled with an odd number is not important.

Does the student count only open spaces or every space if thy need to spell the coins name? The penny starts on a odd space and ends up back on an odd space. If the student counts every

space including the space with the penny the dime will finish up on one of the ends depending on the way the coin is moved. If the student counts only the open spaces at the ends the dime will finish up on the end space where it started.