Hands-on Money Activities

Simple activities you can do at home with a pocket, or piggy bank, full of change and a few additional items.

Money Sort:

Sort money by size, colour, or coin type.

Coin detective:

Using sorted coins, make a note of the similarities and differences between the groups that have been sorted. For example, if you have sorted the coins by colour: What are the differences between the silver and gold coloured coins? What do all the silver coins have in common? Are there any features that all of the coins share?

Coin hunt:

Hide coins around the house or backyard. Call out a coin name or value. Players need to find the matching coin and bring it to a selected drop off zone. You could make this a challenge by having players race against each other, or themselves, to find as many coins of that type before a timer goes off.

Value swat:

Write the coin values (5 cents, 10 cents ..) on post-it notes or on pavement using sidewalk chalk. Call out a coin name (quarter, loonie). Players use a fly swatter to swat the correct coin value. If you are playing outside with sidewalk chalk you could write the values multiple times and have players use a spray bottle to erase the correct value amount.