Benny's Pennies	
by Pat Brisson	
Parts of the Lesson	Materials Needed
I. Pre-activity	I. Pre-activity
Put a pile of pennies on each table. Look at coins	Lots of pennies. [Bring at least 20 for each child
with magnifying glasses if available. Discuss	- for this activity and for playing BANKO] Small
features of the penny and find the date on each	magnifying glasses, if available. Copies of
one. Have each table find as many years as	"Welcome Books" by Mary Hill, if available -
possible and put them on a penny chart showing	especially "Pennies" but also the ones about
the last 50 years, one chart per table. [Optional:	nickels, dimes, quarters if you want to extend
Share info about coins, found in the Welcome	the lesson. Make photocopies of the penny chart
Books by Mary Hill.] Have a big penny chart up	for each table. Maybe one for each child to take
front. Count the years out loud and check off	home, to start their own penny collection. A <u>large</u>
the years found. with years and see how many	<u>chart</u> for up front.
different years can be found How many	
pennies in all? Make piles of 10 and count how	
many in all by going around the room and	
counting by tens.	
II. Read the Book (Talking points)	II. Read the Book.
Read the book about just five pennies. What can	You will need at least one copy of the book.
you really buy for a penny? Why did people give	
Benny these things for just a penny? Why was	
he so happy at the end of the book, even tho his	
money was gone?	
III. Do the Math (Activities).	III. Do the Math.
Activity 1: Make a story with the stickers.	I. Copies of page 13 for each kid. Stickers for
Write numbers in the blanks. Retell the story	each kid. Pencils for each kid.
out loud (i.e., read page 13 after it is filled in	2. <u>Game boards</u> (copies of page 15). For younger
and stickers are in place.)	children, insert numbers ahead of time. Older
Activity 2: Play BANKO. List winners on a chart	children can make up their own numbers for each
with 2 columns for each game:	column. Punchouts of BANKO numbers, for
Who Won?	calling out the numbers during the game. (There
"5 in a row" "the most money"	is a <u>BANKO record sheet</u> in the appendix, so you
1. 2.	can keep track of the numbers called.)
3.	Pennies (same as used in pre-activity, approx 20
Activity 3: If kids are old enough, play again	pennies for each child. Make up <u>a "Who Won?"</u>
with dimes (for counting the most money by	<u>chart</u> for listing winners.3. Bring <u>dimes</u> or <u>nickels</u> for harder counting.
10s) or nickels (for counting by 5s).	(Estimate 10-20 per child.)
IV. Wrap Up (Debrief)	IV. Wrap Up
Review: We looked at pennies and found out	Take home Benny story (the FB page), the
what years they were minted. We counted them	magnifying glasses and a blank penny chart.
up; read the story; used stickers; played BANKO	(Leave BANKO cards unless kids ask to keep.)