

DESIGN A NEW U.S. COIN



Time: 2-3 class periods

Instructional Goals:

- The students will use the PebbleGo Social Studies online database to learn about money and American symbols.
- The students will use their acquired knowledge of coins and American symbols to design a new U.S. coin.

Materials/Resources:

- PebbleGo Social Studies online database
- Several different U.S. coins of varying amounts and with different designs for students to study
- Money KWL chart for class
- American Symbols Notes page
- My New United States Coin page
- Clip art images of American symbols for students to paste to their new coin design, if desired

Procedures/Lesson Activities:

Focus

1. Hand out several U.S. coins. Ask students to observe the coins closely. What do they notice about their coins? What kinds of pictures are on the coins? What words or numbers do they see? Write down student observations for everyone to see.
2. Ask students what coins are used for. As a class, begin a Money KWL chart.

Teach/Model

3. Project PebbleGo Social Studies database for the class to see. Navigate to the What Is Money? article. Use the read aloud feature to read through the article as a class.
4. Discuss with students what the dates on the coins mean, as well as the words on each coin. Tell students about the coins' different monetary values.
5. Refer to the list of pictures the students noticed on their coins. Explain that these pictures are of different American symbols. Tell students that each picture represents something about our country, such as courage, honor, and leadership. These are ideals that our country feels are important.
6. Add any additional student ideas to the class Money KWL chart.

Guided Practice



7. Explain to students that they will be designing a new coin for the United States of America. The new coin needs to have at least three American symbols on it. They may choose the symbols to use on their new coin designs. Explain that they need to think about what each symbol means before they make their final choices.
8. Show students the American Symbol Notes page.
9. Navigate to the American Symbols section of the PebbleGo Social Studies database. Demonstrate for students how to navigate between the symbols and how to use the read aloud function.
10. Model for students how they can complete the American Symbol Notes page using words or pictures.
11. Tell students since they are using research information from PebbleGo, they need to give credit to their source. Demonstrate how to complete the bibliography section of the notes chart by writing the title of the source (PebbleGo).

Independent Practice

12. Allow students time to explore the American Symbols section of PebbleGo Social Studies. Have students record their notes on the American Symbols Notes page.
13. Monitor students as they complete their notes and bibliography.

Closure

14. Have students draw their new coin designs using the My New United States Coin page. If needed, provide students with clip art images of different American symbols that they can cut and paste onto their coin designs.
15. Complete the class Money KWL chart with what the students learned about money during their research and new coin creation.

Extend/Enrich

- Students complete observations about coins and paper money from other countries. Students compare and contrast the different money from other countries with the money from the United States.

American Symbol Notes



Name _____

Symbol Name	Picture	Notes
_____ _____		
_____ _____		
_____ _____		

Bibliography: I found my information in _____

Money KWL



Name _____

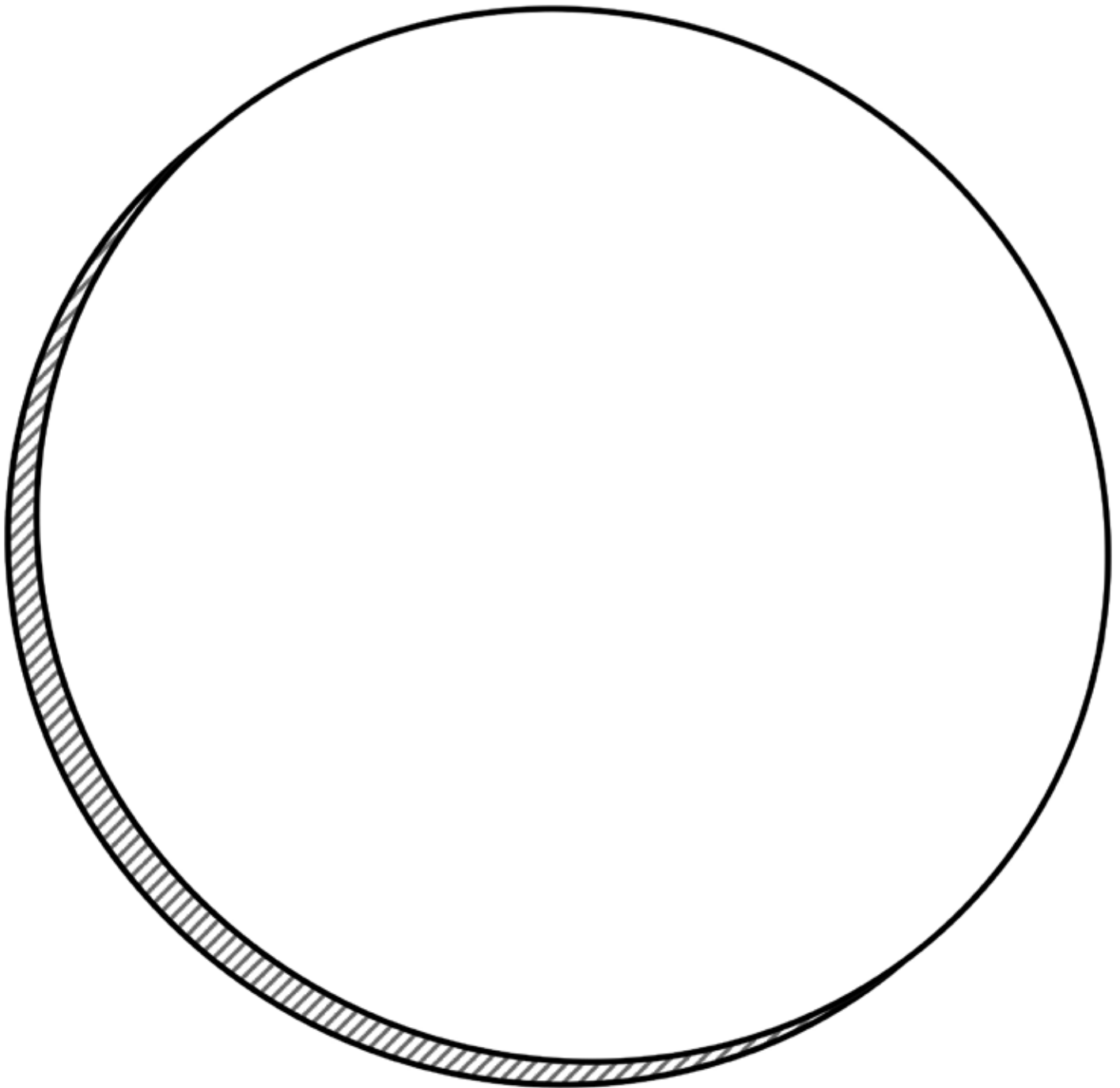
What I Know	What I Want to Know	What I Learned

My New United States Coin



Name _____

Design a new coin that includes at least three American symbols you found during your research.



What is the value of your new coin? _____