Currency Kit
EXPLORING COUNTRIES AND CULTURES

For 1–4 Children

⚠️ CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts. Not for children under 3 years.

My Father’s World

This Currency Kit, designed for use with one to four children, is used beginning in Week 5 when you visit Mexico, and then each time you visit a new country. Where possible, extra currency has been included to replace pieces that may get lost or damaged.

Plan to cut out money for a specific country before you study that country. Children can help – the money doesn’t need to be cut perfectly.

Use real money ($10 for each child) to begin the money exchange for each trip. This will make the money exchange concepts more real for the students. If you prefer, you may use the U.S. paper money included in this kit.

We developed this kit using the following exchange rate. You can also use the Internet to determine the current exchange rate, but may need to round that amount so that you can use the currency found in the Currency Kit.

### Exchange Rate for U.S. $10 Dollars
- Mexico – 125 Pesos
- Canada – 10 Dollars
- Brazil – 22 Reais (plural of Real)
- Norway – 60 Kroner
- France – 8 Euro
- Germany – 8 Euro
- Kenya – 860 Shillings
- Saudi Arabia – 37 Riyals
- India – 600 Rupees
- China – 62 Yuan
- Japan – 1000 Yen
- Russia – 320 Roubles
- Australia – 11 Dollars

**SAMPLE TRIP – Travel to Mexico!**
Each time you visit a new country you might adapt and use this general plan. Modify it for older children or let them help younger ones.

**Preparation and Materials:**
- snack (such as tortilla chips)
- passport, which the parent/teacher has prepared by adding personal information (name, etc.).

Read through the activity below. Write “Currency Exchange” and the exchange rate on a paper. Prepare small bags with the snack and write the price of the snack on a paper. Price the snack at about the
equivalent of $1 U.S. or about 10% of the money the children are given. You might have more than one snack and let the children choose to buy both or multiples of one.

Plane Ride:
Set up chairs and pretend to take a plane trip. If you have enough participants, one child can be the pilot; you are the attendant. Discuss your destination while you are on your flight. Talk about how far you are traveling from your city to Mexico City, the capital of Mexico.

While you are in the air, teach the children simple words in Spanish. Write the words on a paper where the children can see them to use once they land.

- **hello** – hola (OH-lah)
- **good-bye** – adiós (ad-dee-OHS)
- **please** – por favor (pohr fah-VOHR)
- **thank you** – gracias (GRAH-see-ahs)
- **yes** – sí (see)
- **no** – no (no)

Before the plane lands, give each child their passport and $10 U.S. currency. (Use real money if available.) Once the plane lands, the children line up to go through three areas: customs, currency exchange, and street vendor. All of you should greet each other and use a few other words in Spanish as you converse in these three areas.

Customs:
An adult, the Customs Examiner, sits behind a table. One by one, the children present their passport. The Customs Examiner asks questions such as:

- What is your name?
- Is this your first visit to our country?
- Do you have any fruit in your luggage?
- Are you a tourist?

The Customs Examiner writes the country name and date in each passport. (Use a date stamp if available.) The appropriate large flag sticker from *Flags of the World* is added to each passport.

Currency Exchange:
An adult sits at a table and operates a currency exchange. The currency in Mexico is the peso. Have each child in turn exchange $10 U.S. for pesos, using the exchange rate provided with the Currency Kit or a more current rate found on the Internet. You may need to round the amount to use the available currency.

Street Vendor:
An adult or older child sits at a third location and sells tortilla chips in small plastic bags. Each child can use his money to purchase a snack.

Later in the week, let the child use his money to purchase lunch, a (home) movie, etc.