

Meet the euro: the €1 coin

CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT

MEA.MON.2 recognise the value of money and use euro and cent in a range of meaningful contexts.

INTERACTIVES Coin Counter · challenge, display, explore

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The €1 coin is worth one hundred cent. It is one whole euro, not a cent coin.

→ $50c + 50c = 100c = €1$.

→ A €1 coin is worth far more than a single 1c coin.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

TWO 50C COINS MAKE €1

- 1 Take two 50c coins from the tray.
- 2 Add the values: $50c + 50c = 100c$.
- 3 100c is the same as one whole euro.
- 4 So the two coins equal €1.

LESSON ARC

Open by holding up a real €1 coin so pupils see the gold ring and silver centre, then take three quick hands-up answers on what one euro buys. Walk three coin trays on the IWB: the lone €1, two 50c that swap for it, and a 1c for contrast. Pupils take turns naming euro versus cent coins, write €1 in their copybooks, then practise making one euro with two 50c at the board. Close by revoicing that stamped value, not size, decides worth.

TEACHING MOVES

1. **Getting Started.** Hold up a real €1 coin (or the Euro coin card) as pupils settle so the gold outer ring and silver centre are clear. Take three hands-up answers on what one euro might buy — keep it quick and playful, then land the key point: this is not a cent coin.
2. **Watch and Notice.** Walk the three trays one at a time. On the first, have the class chorally say 'one euro, one hundred cent'. On the second, join the count (50, 100) then name the trade as a swap of equal value. On the third, contrast the tiny 1c with the euro — the stamped-value gap is the lesson's point.
3. **Try It Together.** Rotate four pupils to the board. Call one coin at a time (€1, 50c, 10c, 1c); the pupil taps it and the class says euro or cent plus the value out loud. If someone confuses the gold 50c with the euro, hold both up and ask what number is stamped on each.
4. **Write one euro in your copy.** Pupils write €1 and the words 'one euro' in their maths copy. Walk the rows glancing at the euro symbol and the spelling of euro — whole-class copybook practice, not marking.
5. **Class Challenge.** Keep board turns brisk: find the €1, make 50c, then make one euro with exactly two 50c coins. Class confirms each answer before moving on. On the third job revoice: 'two fifties make a hundred, and a hundred cent is one euro.'
6. **What Did We Notice?.** Ask why the €1 is worth so much more than the 1c. Listen for 'a hundred cent' or the two-50c trade. Head off 'because it is bigger' — revoice that stamped value, not size, is the reason.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

⚠ Pupils call the €1 a 'cent coin' because it is a coin like the others they already know.

Hold the €1 beside a 1c and revoice: 'the euro is worth a hundred of the little ones — it is a euro coin, not a cent coin.' Point to the € symbol and the 1.

⚠ Pupils think bigger always means more, so they rank the large 50c above the €1 or treat size as value.

Hold both coins up and ask what number is stamped on each. Rebuild the second tray: two 50c count to 100 cent, which swaps for the €1 — value lives in the stamp, not the size.

⚠ Pupils confuse the gold 50c with the €1 because both show gold colour.

Place them side by side on the IWB coin tray and ask the class to read the number on each. Chorally label: fifty cent, one euro.

DIFFERENTIATION

EMERGING

- Stay on the first tray only — name the €1 as one euro, one hundred cent — before joining the two-50c trade.
- On board turns, pre-place the target coin so the pupil only names euro or cent and the value.

DEVELOPING

- After a correct two-50c trade, ask: if one 50c is already on the tray, what else do you need to make one euro?
- Add a justify beat before moving on: 'How do you know two 50c coins equal the €1?'

PROFICIENT

- While others finish a board turn, stretch at the IWB: make one euro using only cent coins, with the class still confirming.
- Ask: can you make one euro another way with the coins we met today, without touching the €1 itself?

✓ **Cross-curricular:** Link to SPHE shopping — name one real item a local shop sells for about one euro.

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: €1

Q2: €1

Q3: euro coin

Q4: 1c, 50c, €1

a) Always : One euro equals one hundred cent by definition.

b) Never : Two 20c coins make 40c, and €1 is 100c.

c) Always : Two 50c coins total 100c which equals one euro.

d) Sometimes : It depends on the price of the toy.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 1c, 5c, 20c

S2: 2c, 5c, 20c

S3: 2c, 5c, 20c

S4: 1c, 2c, 5c