



Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening

Pre-K

Kindergarten

Grades 1–3

# Buy My Sentence!

Literacy Skills / Concept of Word



## Materials

1. Big jar of pennies
2. Sample picture



## Virginia SOLs

K.5

## Procedure

1. Each student looks at the picture and thinks of a sentence that goes with it. For example, if the picture is of a cat drinking milk from a blue bowl, a student might think of the sentence, “the cat is drinking,” or “the black cat is drinking milk.”
2. Each student counts the words in their sentence. As the teacher, use pennies to “buy” each word in the sentence.
3. Students lay the pennies out in front of them. Students repeat their sentence and tap each penny as they say each word. Students can also work in a group, with one student as the “banker” or “buyer” of sentences.
4. VARIATION: In addition to focusing on concept of word, this activity may be used to help students add detail to their sentences, creating sentences of greater monetary value.