

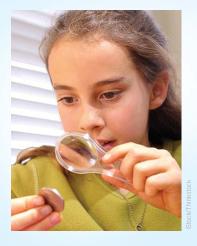
## Makin' Money

Do you know what money is made of? It definitely doesn't grow on trees!

U.S. coins are made of a mixture of metals:

- Pennies: copper-plated zinc.
- Nickels, quarters, and dimes: a copper and zinc blend.
- Sacajawea dollar: copper, zinc, manganese, and nickel.

These mixtures of metals are called alloys. When you look at the edges of some coins, you'll see a reddish-colored layer inside. This is a core



made out of pure copper.

The metal mixtures used to make coins were chosen specifically because they make the coins as strong as possible.

## **NO MORE PLAIN GIFT WRAP!**

Here's a fun way to give a gift your friend will never forget:

Find a tiny gift and place it in a matchbox or small jewelry box. Wrap it in pretty paper. Then, look for an interesting, slightly larger box.

Put the wrapped box inside and then wrap that. Now look for a slightly larger box. How many cool-looking boxes can you fit inside the last box?

Here are some box ideas: butter carton, baking soda carton, tissue box, cracker box, shoe box, hat box, and a cut-up, reshaped cereal box.

For more fun, ask at different stores if they have any empty boxes to spare!











