## Coin Flip For Facts File Folder Reports

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## Flip For Facts



Pennies continued to be made entirely out of copper until the mid 1800's. 2


Our money is made in mints. The US has 4 mints. Cuprently, only Denver and Philadelphia produce coins for circulation. 3

Some of the most valuable pennies still floating apound are from 1943. They should have been steelies, but came through as copper. They have a value of $\$ 80,000$ to $\$ 112,000$. A numismatist is a person who collects coins. 2

The penny was the fipst cuppency to be authorized by oup nation. George Washington did this by authorizing the directop of the mint to pupchase 1.50 tons of copper to make cents and half cents. 3

The first penny was designed by Benjamin Fpanklin. It was made of pure copper and minted in 1787. A lady who symbolized liberty, was on the front. 1

Pennies continued to be made entirely out of copper until the mid 1800's. Z

In 1909 the first Lincoln head penny was minted in celebpation of his 100th birthday. This design replaced the Indian head penny. 1

The name for our penny was depived from the British penny that was called a pence. 3

Accopding to the USMint, over 300 billion pennies have been minted since Franklin's fipst penny. 1

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## How to cite a website in MLA format.

EasyBib is a website that will automatically help you make a citation in correct format. http://www.easybib.com/reference/guide/mla/website

Here's their breakdown:

## Structure:

Last name, First name. "Article Title." Website Title. Publisher of Website, Day Month Year article was published. Web. Day Month Year article was accessed. <URL>.

## Example:

Cain, Kevin. "The Negative Effects of Facebook on Communication." Social Media Today RSS N.p., 29 June 2012. Web. 02 Jan. 2013.

Even though citations should not include the URL, I always had my students include it, letting them know that this was for my personal use only, and not part of the correct citation. I informed them that I would be checking their sources, and this would expedite follow up for me.


If you want to require the use of URLs, MLA
suggests that the URL appear in
angle brackets after the date of access.

OWL (the Online Learning Lab for Purdue University ) gives examples and is a great resource page. It is my favorite resource site for the technicalities of a research paper.

Finding the different parts for the structure for a citation, can sometimes be difficult for students. EasyBib helps out with that. Students copy and paste the URL into the web address box and EasyBib will break it down.

One of the features I like about this site is that it will show what information could not be found and lets a student know if they feel this is a "credible" site. Students need to realize that just because it's on the Internet, does not mean it is factual, and educational sites and databases should be the preferred source than simply Googling a question or topic.


I realize that most teachers want students to "figure it out" on their own, because they obviously learn by doing, but whether you share helpful sites with your students or not, they are techsavvy and will find them on their own.

I found that even my college students appreciated the tips, and were more apt to include a bibliography, let alone give me a correct citation. I also feel that if a student uses these tools, they are learning the correct format, rather than winging it and doing their own thing, simply reinforcing errors, or being so overwhelmed that they don't do it at all.

EasyBib has some interesting articles on research, "presearch" and "vlogging" Check out this link and read on!
http://content.easybib.com/students/citation-guide/mla-format/how-to-cite-a-website-mla/
http://coins.coinupdate.com/2009-lincoln-penny-log-cabin-design/
Information about the new pennies that were just minted this year to celebrate Lincoln's $200^{\text {th }}$ birthday!
http://coins.about.com/library/coin values/bl wheat cents.htm
How much are your wheat pemies worth? Plus links to other sites that will help you with your coin collecting values.
http://www.pressedpenny.com/
I collect pressed pennies when I go places and thought it was neat to find a pressed penny collectors site when I was surfing the net looking for penny information. So I thought I'd list it incase there are other collectors out there!
http://www.history.com/minisites/money/viewVideoGallery?videold=52510
Nice video clip of how coins are made.
http.//www.essortment.com/all/historypenny rmor.htm
A nice concise history of the penny.
http://money.howstuffworks.com/question775.htm
Interesting answers to the question about why the profiles of the presidents face the directions they do.
http://www.howstuffworks.com/framed.htm?parent=question775.htm\&url=http:/home.at t.net/-rinorton/

Shows the real photograph that the penny and the $\$ 5$ dollar bill image was taken from.
I printed and laminated this to show my students.
Also a nice article about the controversy over putting Lincoln on the penny when it was first discussed.
http://www earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/firsts/penny/
Information about our very first penny and the document that made it possible.
http://www.livescience.com/mysteries/070129 penny.html
Tells what a penny is made of.

## Iateresting Penny Information

- The penny is a US coin worth one cent.
- The US Mint refers to it as a cent.
- It was the first currency to be authorized by our nation. Up until that time people were using other country's money or the bartering system.
- An Abstract appearing in the Columbian Centinel on June $20^{\text {th }} 1792$ and signed in script type by G. Washington on May $8^{\text {th }}$ stated that the director of the mint was authorized to purchase a quantity of copper ( 150 tons!) to make cents and half cents.
- The Act also stipulated that"...no other copper coins or other cents were to be accepted as money to be offered as payment for any debt whatsoever." The Act further warned that all "other copper coins used in payment would be forfeited and those involved fined ten dollars!" A huge sum of money in those days!
- The first penny was minted in 1787 it was pure copper and was designed by Benjamin Franklin.
- Paul Revere who was a blacksmith during that time period supplied some of that copper. Pennies would remain totally copper 'til the mid 1800 's.
- This penny was known as the Fugio cent. It was 5 times heavier and $50 \%$ larger, about the size of our current fifty cent piece!
- A lady with flowing hair, who symbolized liberty, was on the first penny.
- According to the US Mint, around 300 billion pennies with 11 different designs have been minted since the first penny.
- The 11 different designs appear to be a woman with various different hair designs from straight to braided, various Indian pennies, Eagles and Lincoln with all of those having different designs on the "tail" or reverse sides.
- Our penny was named after the British penny called a pence.
- It was also sometimes called a "minor" because it was a minor or "insignificant" coin because it was only worth one-cent.
- There was a Roman coin called the Denarius. It is said that the penny was based on the Novus Denarius.
- The Flying Eagle penny was first produced in 1856. This was the first penny that had its composition changed from pure copper to partially nickel. The size and shape was determined by the Director of the Mint who had to get the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.
- Then came the Indian cent in with an olive wreath on the back.
- 1859 another Indian cent with an Indian "princess" on the back. A popular story goes that a visiting Indian chief lent his daughter his headdress at the request of the coin's designer so she could pose as a "princess".
- It is interesting to note that most of these pennies minted after the Civil War went primarily to pay Union soldiers!
- Another interesting fact is that it wasn't until the Coinage Act of 1864 that the one-cent coin was made legal tender!
- The first Lincoln penny was issued in 1909 for his $100^{\text {th }}$ birthday. It replaced the "Indian Head" penny.
- This was the first coin to feature a president so there was a lot of controversy about it.
- One of the arguments being that it was "only a penny" and the other that we were being like England and making our president like a king or royalty a throw back to colonial times.
- Pennies are copper plated zinc. ( $(97.5 \%$ zinc \& $2.5 \%$ copper)
- They are 19.05 mm in diameter, 1.55 mm thick and weigh about 2 grams.
- In 1943 the Lincoln penny was made of steel with a zinc coating because copper was needed for the military during World War II. These pennies became known as "steelies".
- Ammunition shells even made their way into the minting process from 1944 to 1946 so some pennies have streaks of brass and a darker finish.
- According to the US mint there are about 150 billion US pennies in circulation today.
- Since the beginning, they say they have produced over 288.7 billion pennies. It's only a guess-timate, but if you line them edge to edge the pennies would circle the earth 137 times!
- According to the US Treasury a circulating coin lasts about 30 years.
- The mint produces over 1000 pennies a second which means they make over 30 million pennies a day!
- Half of all the Mint's coin production is pennies.
- When the country was short on copper people would donate any kind of scrap copper including kitchen utensils to be melted down so they could make pennies!
- The front of the penny is called heads or the obverse side, the back is known as tails or the reverse side.
- On the front of the current penny we have Lincoln's head on it.
- Unlike most coins his profile faces right simply because the designer copied a photo that was also facing right.
- The small initial under the date is the "mint mark". That shows WHERE the penny was minted. D means Denver (Colorado) S for San Francisco (California)
- There are 4 mints in the US. The above two and also Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and West Point, New York.
- Now only Denver and Philadelphia produce coins for circulation. The others make coins for proofs and do specialty minting.
- The back of the penny has the Lincoln Memorial on it. This is a monument to Abraham Lincoln located in Washington, D.C. If you look closely at it, you can actually see Lincoln sitting inside the Memorial. This used to be the only coin that had the same person on both sides 'til the state quarters came out. The New Jersey state quarter depicts George Washington on the front and then he is crossing the Delaware River on the reverse side.
- The first penny had two stalks of wheat on the back. The Lincoln Memorial was added in 1959 to commemorate Lincoln's 150the birthday. Frank Gasparro was the Mint engraver.
- In 2009 Lincoln celebrates his $200^{\text {th }}$ birthday. A new penny has just been minted. A log cabir is on the back of the new penny because Lincoln was raised in a log cabin.
- "E Pluribus Unum" is written on the back. It is Latin for "Out of many, one"
- "In God we trust" is on the front of the penny. The Lincoln penny was the first cent on which these words appeared.
- During the early 1970 's the price of copper rose so high that the cost of a penny was worth more than one cent! So the Mint started to test alternative metals.
- In 1974 the mint produced pure aluminum pennies as a test. They were never circulated and thought destroyed. But when they cleaned out the vats, some pennies with the aluminum in them still made it through. These are illegal and were confiscated by the Secret Service. A few are said to be still floating around. One was donated to the Smithsonian.
- Aluminum was rejected because vending machine owners complained that they would cause mechanical problems and pediatricians, veterinarians and radiologists said that if a child or pet would swallow the coin they would be hard to detect. One should be careful to keep pennies away from small children and pets anyway, because Zinc, a major component of post 1982 pennies, is toxic, and can cause damage to the lining of your stomach. It is often fatal to dogs and pet parrots too.
- Because of the fluctuation of the price of metals the government had to pass laws placing limits on the exportation of our coins as well as making it illegal to melt pennies and nickels.
- Because of the craziness of the fluctuating metal market and the fact that most Americans do not actually spend pennies, there has been support in congress to stop making the coin, especially since production costs now sometimes exceeds the face value of the coin and no vending machines take them anymore. However, since it's Lincoln's $200^{\text {th }}$ birthday they have just issued a brand new penny and in 2010 another design will also be available, 4 new designs in all.
- England, Ireland, the UK, and Canada all have pennies too.
- The most valuable pennies out there right now are about a dozen 1943 pennies that should have been steelies. They slipped through and came out copper. They are rare and worth from $\$ 80,000$ to $\$ 112,000!!!$
- The 1944 steel cent is also a collectible.
- The rarest penny is said to be from 1793. There are 4 or 5 still floating around and can fetch about $\$ 275,000$. So if you'd like to buy a house for a penny start checking your pocket change and grama's attic piggy bank!
- And here's a new name for you if you're going to start collecting those pennies. You're now a numismatist! Good luck! I guess it's good to be a penny pincher!

The information for my list came from web sources which I highly recommend and list on a separate page. I spent many enjoyable hours surfing the Net learning about pennies and hope you have fun too!

