

Writing the notation for dollars and cents activities

1 Write cents only

Given an amount under a dollar, such as 45 cents, children write it using the cents notation.

"Is this amount under a dollar?"

"Write it using the letter c after the number."

2 Write whole dollars

Given a whole dollar amount, such as \$6, children write it using the dollar notation.

"Does this amount need any cents at all?"

"Write it with the dollar sign in front."

3 Write dollars and cents, including the tricky placeholder

Given an amount like \$4 and 5 cents, children write the full dollar-and-cents notation, taking care with the placeholder zero.

"Is the cents part less than ten cents? What does that mean for the spot right after the dot?"

"Write the full amount, dollar sign, dot, then both cent digits."

4 Non-example: the missing placeholder

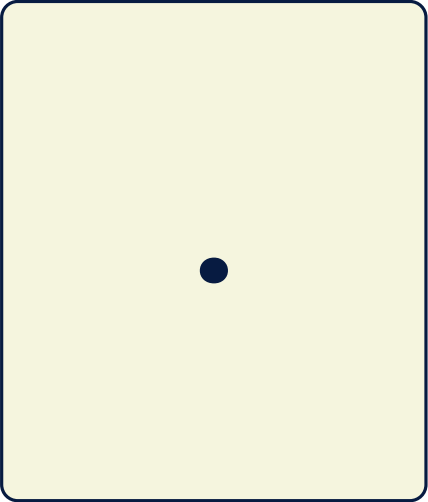
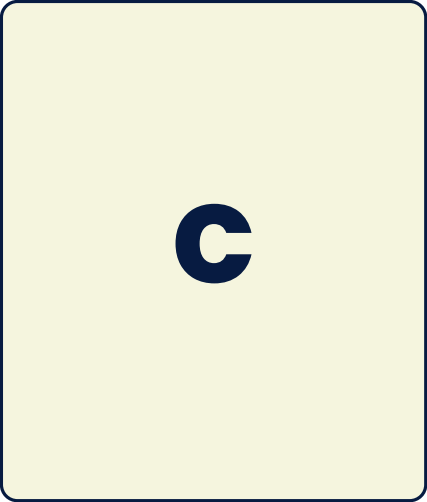
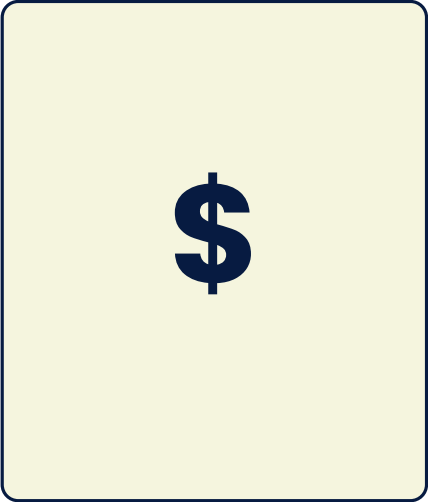
Someone writes \$4 and 5 cents as \$4.5.

"What does \$4.5 actually say out loud – four dollars and how many cents?"

"How should four dollars and five cents really be written?"

Notation cards

Symbol cards



Digit cards (extra 0, 1 and 5 – most common in coin amounts)

0

0

0

0

0

1

1

1

1

1

5

5

5

5

5

2

2

3

3

4

4

6

6

7

7

8

8

9

9

Blank placeholder cards
