

Core Skills Analysis

Art and Creativity

- Finn developed fine motor skills by carefully applying glass paints to decorate the jar, enhancing hand-eye coordination.
- The activity encouraged creative expression as Finn chose colors and patterns to personalize the money jar, fostering individual artistic choices.
- By working with glass paints, Finn learned about different art mediums and their properties, like transparency and texture on glass surfaces.
- Decorating a functional object connects art to real-life usage, helping Finn understand the practical value and purpose behind creative work.

Mathematical Understanding and Money Awareness

- Creating a money jar introduced Finn to the concept of saving spare change, embedding early financial literacy.
- Finn began to understand the purpose of money collection tools, linking physical objects to abstract ideas like saving and budgeting.
- The jar decoration might include counting or sorting coins later, offering a tactile way to explore numbers and values.
- This activity sets a foundation for recognizing different coins and their value as part of daily math learning.

Tips

To enrich Finn's learning from the money jar decorating activity, you can expand into fun money-related games like sorting real coins by size and value or creating simple charts to track savings over time. Introduce storytelling where Finn imagines what he might do with the saved money, integrating creative writing and goal-setting skills. Also, explore different cultural designs and patterns to decorate jars to build an appreciation for diversity in art and traditions. Lastly, experimenting with various materials for jar decoration such as stickers or fabric pieces can deepen fine motor skills and sensory exploration.

Book Recommendations

- [Bunny Money](#) by Rosemary Wells: A delightful story about siblings learning to manage money wisely during a shopping trip.
- [The Rainbow Fish](#) by Marcus Pfister: A beautifully illustrated story about sharing and giving, encouraging thoughtful use of resources.
- [Money Madness](#) by David A. Adler: An engaging introduction to coins and their values, perfect for young learners starting to understand money.

Learning Standards

- Art and Design: Developing fine motor skills and creativity through painting and decoration (UK National Curriculum Art and Design: Early Years Foundation Stage).
- Mathematics: Recognising numbers, simple addition and understanding money concepts (Maths – Early Years Foundation Stage Development Matters: Numbers).
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Understanding the concept of saving and responsibility (Early Years Foundation Stage – Understanding the World).

Try This Next

- Design a worksheet for Finn to draw and label different coin denominations, matching images to values.

- Create a simple savings tracker with colorful stickers Finn can add each time spare change is saved in the jar.