

Money Vocabulary for Grades 4 to 6

Bank notes: the polymer money we use in Canada

Barter: trading an object or service for another instead of paying for it with money

Counterfeit: an object that is fake, especially money

Commodity currency: an object that is used as money but that also has another use and value, like something you can wear, eat or use.

Currency: the object used as money (like a coin or a bank note) in a country or area

Divisible: can be divided or made into smaller pieces

Durable: strong, long lasting and hard to break

Fiat currency: an object that is used only as money and doesn't have any other use, like a bank note

Polymer: a special type of plastic used for Canadian bank notes

Portable: easy to carry and move from place to place

Product: an object made by someone

Rare: something that is hard to find or hard to get because there aren't many of them

Service: an action that someone does for you

Security features: Security features are images or details on our bank notes that are used to stop counterfeiting. Here are some examples:

- Ink: You should feel raised ink bumps on the numbers and on details of the images, such as the shoulders of the portrait.
- Window: New bank notes have a clear window, which is an unprinted area of the polymer.
- Hologram: Your bank note should have a holographic picture on it, of either someone's face or part of the Parliament buildings. Tilt and twist the note to reveal the colours of the hologram.

Learn more about [bank notes past and present](#) on the Bank of Canada Museum website.

Value: how much something is worth

Other activities:

- Play one of our trading games: [Trade Rules](#) (Grades 3 to 5) or [Trading Planets](#) (Grades 4 to 6) to simulate and better understand how trade works.
- In the [Exploring Payment Methods](#) students will learn about different payment methods and how to decide which to use. (Grade 4)
- Explore the durability and environmental impact of our banknotes with [Assessing the life cycle of a bank note](#). (Grade 5-6)
- Ever wonder how we choose who and what goes on Canadian banknotes? In the [A bank NOTE-able Canadian](#) and [The changing face of our money](#) lessons, students will use the concept of historical significance to explore the creation of Banknotes (Grade 6). Younger students can also get involved with the [Design your own bank note lesson](#). (Grade 4 – 6)
- Watch this two-minute video called [The life of a polymer bank note](#) to learn about the creation, printing and recycling of our bank notes.
- Have more questions? Check out [Understanding Money: Common Questions](#)
- See all of our elementary money math resources [here](#)!