

# How Many Pennies?

The sign on the jar in the store read, “Guess the number of pennies and WIN them!” Jason looked at the jar. He didn’t know how to guess. He started to walk away when he heard, “Psst.” Jason didn’t see anyone. “Psst.” ●

“Hey, kid,” said the jar. The jar was talking, and to him! It said, “Come closer, and I’ll tell you how many pennies are inside me.” ●

Jason wrote down the number the jar said and put it in the box for guesses. On Saturday, he returned to hear his name announced as the winner! Jason took the jar home and dumped the pennies out on his bed. “What am I going to do with all these pennies?” he said to himself.

“Psst.” Jason looked around. He didn’t see anyone. “Psst. Hey, kid,” said his bed. “Come closer, and I’ll tell you what you should buy with these pennies.”

**Skill** So far, this story seems realistic. This could really happen.

**Strategy** If you are not sure about what you have just read, this would be a good spot to stop and reread.