



Name _____

Lincoln Penny Worksheet

I. Opener

If one scene from your childhood was drawn to best represent you, what would the scene be? What would you be doing?

Sketch the scene below.

If someone didn't know you saw this scene, what would he or she be able to learn/assume about you from it? Make a short list.

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II. Activating Prior Knowledge/Background Information

List all of the things you can think of that are on a penny, front and back.

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Using the "Penny Fun Facts" handout, fill in notes about the first release of the Lincoln penny.

- From _____ to _____, the Indian one-cent coin was in use. On one side of the coin was an Indian head wearing a feather bonnet and the words _____ of _____. The word _____ is shown on the band across the bonnet. On the reverse side of the coin are the words _____ within a laurel or oak wreath, depending on the year of the coin.

- The Lincoln penny was designed in _____ to honor his _____ birthday.

- The Lincoln penny was the _____ time a president had been on a coin.
- “E Pluribus Unum” means “_____”.
- The motto “_____” appeared for the first time on the Lincoln penny.
- The initials “VDB” appear just under the _____ of Lincoln and stand for _____, the artist commissioned to design the coin.
- In 1959, to honor Lincoln’s _____ birthday, the _____ was put on the backside of the penny.
- The initials “FG” appear on the right side, near the _____, and stand for _____, who designed the new backside.
- In 2009, to honor Lincoln’s _____ birthday, _____ new designs on the backside of the penny are being released. Each new design will depict a different _____ from Lincoln’s life.

III. Lesson

After looking at the Indiana penny background, what do you think Lincoln is doing? List 3 things you can learn/imply from this picture.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Lincoln in Indiana: Read the notes, and fill in important facts and details next to each bullet.

Lincoln as a common person

Lincoln’s family moved to Indiana in _____ when he was _____ years old.

His family

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The hardships of life in Indiana

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Carl Sandburg article, "Lincoln on Pennies" 1909

1. What does Sandburg think Lincoln's opinion would be about appearing on the penny?
2. Explain Sandburg's statement "The penny is strictly the coin of the common people." How is this so?
3. What is Sandburg's opinion about Lincoln appearing on the penny? Why?

Work Lincoln Did

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Lincoln and Reading

His education

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Books he read

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IV. Application

- From the handout of quotes provided by your teacher, choose one quote that you feel exemplifies the affect of reading on Lincoln. Using specific facts and examples from the notes and class discussion, explain in your own words what the quote means and how it relates to Lincoln's childhood and life accomplishments.

Quote # _____

V. Closer

In first person, writing in Lincoln's perspective, describe what is happening in the scene on the penny. Explain what the setting (time and place) is, what you are doing, what book you are reading, how this scene represents who you are, and why you are pleased that this scene was chosen to represent your childhood in Indiana.