



Home Link Help: Making Change

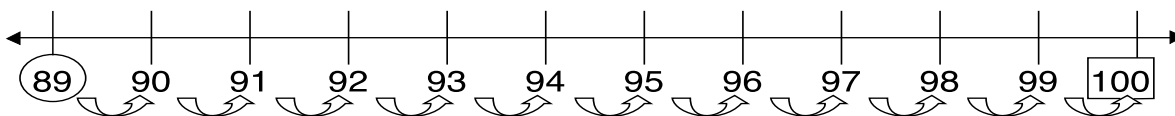
Grade 2, Home Link 10-6

Counting up to make change is one strategy for figuring out how much change is due in a shopping situation. In first grade, children learned the value of the U.S. coins, and in second grade, they build on this knowledge by counting with the coins in a real-life context. At this time of the year, children may not yet have developed procedures for performing subtraction on 2- and 3-digit numbers. Counting up to find the difference is one way many children successfully solve problems involving change.

Help with Home Link Problems

Your child may want to use a number grid or number line to help them count up to make change. Have them circle how much the item costs. Then have your child put a square around the amount they paid. Have them count up from the cost to the amount paid. Make sure they do NOT count their starting point as “1.” Instead, they should begin counting with the first “step” from their starting point. For more information about counting tools, see pages 6-8 of the *My Reference Book*. Encourage your child to count by 1s until they are comfortable counting by 5s (nickels), 10s (dimes) or 25s (quarters).

Item	Price	Amount Used to Pay	Change
can of black beans	\$0.89	\$1.00	\$0.11



81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110

Note that this number grid example indicates a child counting by 10 (or a dime) from 89 to 99 and then adding one more to get to 100. The total distance from 89 to 100 is $10 + 1$ or 11.

Extra Practice Idea

Create a pretend store. Use coins to create a more realistic situation. Encourage your child to count by 5s, 10s, and 25s, not just by 1s.