

# Grade 1, Unit Six: My Little Farm

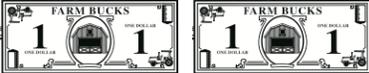
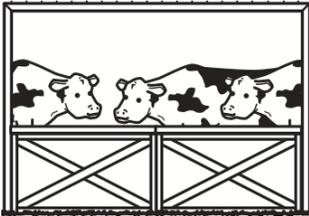
## Money, Place Value & Mapping

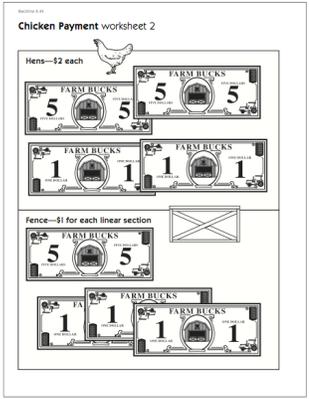
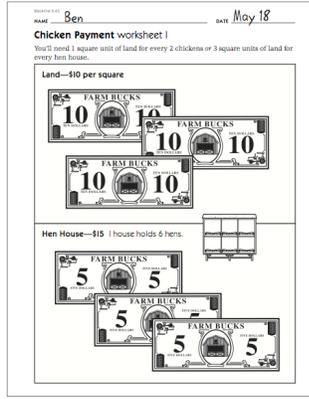
In this unit your child will:

- count by 2's, 5's, and 10's
- solve story problems involving all four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division)
- determine the area and perimeter of rectangles
- locate positions on a coordinate grid

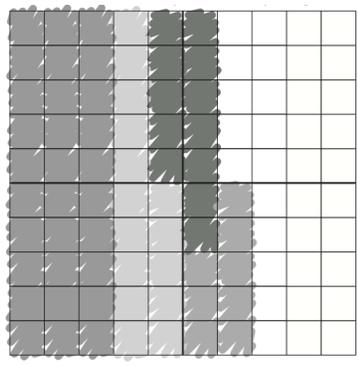


Your child will learn and practice these skills by solving problems like those shown below. Keep this sheet for reference when you're helping with homework.

Problem	Comments
<p>Hannah has the following bills. How much money does she have?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>\$2</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>\$10</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>\$5</b></p> </div> </div> <p><b><math>\\$2 + \\$10 + \\$5 = \\$17</math></b></p>	<p>This student added small groups of bills and then added the values of those groups to find the total amount of money. Another student might count by 5's and then by 1's (5, 10, 15, 16, 17). The different face values of the bills make it necessary for students to count by 5's and 1's or to consider the value of different groups of bills. When students use count-by sequences and groups to compute the total, they are moving toward more efficient ways of adding. Such strategies make it possible for them to add with larger numbers and will lead naturally to multiplication in higher grade levels.</p>
<p>There are 3 cows in the barn. How many legs?</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>	<p>This student drew 4 legs for each of the 3 cows and then counted the legs by 1's to arrive at a total of 12 legs. Other students might count by 4's (if they can) or add groups of 4 one at a time (<math>4 + 4 = 8, 8 + 4 = 12</math>). We hope to see students beginning to think about groups of 4 legs, rather than counting by 1's, to find the total. Even though this student counted by 1's, the drawing shows the legs in groups of 4. When students discuss their strategies in class, this student can make the connection between her drawing and other strategies that rely on groups of 4.</p>



Look at the sheets above. How much did Ben spend altogether on his land, hen houses, hens, and fencing?



What color?

land    hen    hens    fencing

houses

**\$65**

In this unit, students design their own farms in stages. Midway through the unit, for example, they purchase hens and hen supplies to add to their farms. Students must calculate how much the land, hen houses, hens, and fencing cost altogether.

In this example, the student used "farm bucks" (play money) to show how much each kind of supply cost. Then, he used a grid to calculate the total. He used a different color to shade in the cost of each supply on the grid and then found the total. The grid makes it easy for students to see groups of 10 and 5, making it a natural tool for calculating the total amount of money. When solving problems like this, students use the counting and calculating skills they have been developing all year to compute with larger numbers.

### Frequently Asked Questions about Unit Six

**Q: Why end the school year with a unit on farms?**  
**A:** This unit is a favorite with students, who remember it fondly years later as fifth graders and beyond! Students get their own money ("farm bucks") to buy the supplies they need to build their own model farms. Certainly, they are learning a lot about farm life and farm animals in the process of designing their farms, which makes this a valuable social studies unit. Students also employ many of the mathematical skills they have been developing all year long, including spatial reasoning (arranging the different parts of the farm on a grid), problem solving, and calculating with up to 2-digit numbers. We find this unit is a wonderful way to celebrate and culminate a year's worth of mathematical learning, while also keeping students engaged and enthusiastic through the last days of first grade!

