What is Currency?
You’ve learned that most people use money when they buy or sell products. Money has many characteristics that make it easy to use. A characteristic is a feature that helps us identify something.

Money comes in paper bills and metal coins. It is small and easy to carry in your pocket. This makes it portable. Money is also divisible, which means it can be divided into smaller amounts. Money will not fall apart easily, either. This means it’s durable. Finally, money is recognizable. When you look at money, you know how much it is worth and what country it’s from.

Every country in the world has a money system called currency. Currency is different from one country to the next. The names of the bills and coins are different. For example, in the United States, we call paper money “dollars.” In Mexico, paper money is called “pesos.”

Currency also comes in different amounts, depending on which country it is from. You can trade one country’s currency for another country’s currency, too. This way, people all over the world can buy, sell, and trade with one another.

What are the 4 characteristics of currency?
1. ____________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________
3. ____________________________________________________
4. ____________________________________________________

Fun Facts
- U.S. dollar bill can be folded more than 4,000 times before it will tear.
- A coin can last around 30 years.
- A million dollars in pennies would weigh nearly 500,000 pounds!