



## Museum Access: Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Money Museum

### SEASON 3 - EPISODE 1

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Money Museum explores the history of American currency and its circulation. It shares the journey from its creation to present day financial systems that protect its value both nationwide and worldwide. Let's continue the learning with these questions and talking points.

#### Question 1

What architectural features on the exterior of the Federal Reserve bank are also seen on the interior of the building? Why are they significant?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What unusual feature was originally in the lobby of the bank?
2. How are the huge chandeliers maintained in the lobby?

#### Question 2

For many years there was no official currency in America, (official), and often not enough currency. What would happen if there was not enough physical currency in circulation today?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What would you have used to pay for things if you were a colonist?
2. Why is having too much or too little currency in circulation a problem?

#### Question 3

What other types of currency have seen?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What other unique types of currency have you seen?
2. What was the importance of using military currency during wartimes?

#### Question 4

How did the first banking system of the United States, created by Alexander Hamilton, differ from today's Federal Reserve system?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What do the two banks have in common?
2. Why do you think the United States first created the Federal Reserve?

#### Question 5

How do you think the presidential images featured on United States currency were originally chosen?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What do you think the criteria should be in order for a person to be featured on a bill or coin?
2. Who would you like to see featured on a bill or coin? Why?





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#### Question 6

Why are there are so many security features on bills?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What security feature are you most surprised by?
2. Have you ever noticed the security features on bills before? Which ones?

#### Question 7

What are some of the things the Federal Reserve is responsible for?

**More Talking Points:**

1. Why is their role so important in daily commerce?
2. What part of their job would you be most interested in learning more about?

#### Question 8

How is the Federal Reserve involved in the regulation the United States economy?

**More Talking Points:**

1. Is their involvement in the economy is a good thing? Why or why not?
2. What impact does the Federal Reserve have on our current economy?

#### Question 9

Why do you think shredding money is the responsibility of the Federal Reserve?

**More Talking Points:**

1. What are some of the reasons that U.S. currency is shredded?
2. Can you think of a way to reuse the shredded money so it is recycled?

#### Question 10

What would you do with \$1,000,000.00?

**More Talking Points:**

1. How many \$20. bills does it take to make \$1 million?
2. How much money comes through the cash processing area each day?

