

Value of the Paper Clips

- Silver 1
- Yellow 5
- Blue 10
- Red 20
- Black 50
- Green 100



- Count your clips

Stand in Groups by Amount

- 100+ are the highest tier
- 80+ are the second highest tier
- 51+ through 79 are the middle tier
- 0 through 50 are the lowest tier

- These are your socioeconomic classes

Object of the Game

- You can trade, sell, do whatever to get more points – no stealing
- Object is to move into the next tier level
- If you are already in the highest tier, your object is to stay there and make sure no one else gets in, and you don't lose any points

Money Supply

- Your clips represent the supply of money in the economy
- You will have one minute each round to see if you can move up one tier

Takeaways

- If money supply increases, the value of money drops
- If the money supply decreases, the value increases
- Foreign exchange changes the value of money

Economic Comparison

- Please get into your Strawberry Basket groups
- Elect one group member to be the judge
 - The judge gets the green cards
 - Distribute the red cards amongst the rest of your group
- Play 5 green cards
 - Whoever captures the most green cards wins
- To get the green, the judge determines whose red card is the closest idea/concept to the green
- Then come up with two TRUE economic statements and write them on the sheet

Ways to Do This Activity

- Go three rounds
 - Debrief after each round
- Each round, throw another economic concept in
 - You can collect “taxes” from the upper tier and distribute it to the lowest tier
 - Ask each group how they feel about that
 - Ask the lowest tier for “taxes” and give it to the upper

Ways to Do This Activity

- Give everyone more paper clips to “increase the money supply”
- Ask the students what happens when they have more money
 - They spend more
 - More spending creates higher prices
 - Higher prices lead to inflation

Ways to Do This Activity

- After each round:
 - Discuss why our government doesn't even out the tier levels financially
 - Discuss “basic income” experiment in Finland
- At the end:
 - Let the students list some generalizations about the money supply, taxes, socioeconomics, and inflation
 - Have the students create an economic question such as:
 - What happens to the supply of money when we levy taxes?