



Can you believe it's already 2004? Well the folks at the United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Change™ Web site have been extremely busy getting the site ready for the new year! To help you learn about “What’s New For You,” explore some of the fun links that are listed below.



[Break the Bank](#) – This game is a great way for children to learn some basic information about coin collecting. Players answer “True/False” questions to add quarters to their piggy bank. When the bank is full, the player can break it open in one of a variety of fun ways!

[Tools of the Trade](#) – Players help the H.I.P. Pocket Change Pals determine which tools belong to a coin collector and which belong in a repair man’s toolbox.

[Arrows of Knowledge](#) - Help Peter the Mint Eagle aim his “Arrows of Knowledge” and demonstrate your numismatic know-how!

[Collectors Crossword](#) - Complete the “Collectors Crossword” with words that any good coin collector should know!



[Making Cents](#) – The latest edition of the H.I.P. Pocket Change newsletter has finally hit the Web! Read it through to learn all about the new game, Quarter Explorer, the commemoration of Thomas Edison’s “brightest” idea, news on the new nickels, and information on the first quarter to be released in 2004, the Michigan quarter! And don’t forget to watch for the Making Cents Teachers Extras email, filled with classroom activities directly related to the articles in the Winter 2004 edition of Making Cents!

If you’d like to sign up to receive this email each month, visit the **[Teachers’ Network](#)** page and sign in to update your profile.

[January’s Coin of the Month](#) – The brand new Michigan quarter is January’s Coin of the Month. Join Plinky the Mint Pig as she learns all about the “Great Lakes” state!

[Fun Facts](#) – A new Fun Fact is available each month, but you don't have to settle for one fun fact at a time! You can have even more fun and see pictures that go with the facts on the special Fun Facts pages. Just click on a fact at the

top of any H.I.P. Pocket Change page and learn some little known stories of the United States Mint and American coinage!



[Lesson Plans](#) – You may already be familiar with our [50 State Quarters® Program Lesson Plans](#), but did you know that a whole library of coin-centric lesson plans is also available? Visit our [Lesson Plans](#) page and explore by subject area the dozens of lessons contributed by classroom teachers. While you're at it, visit these new lesson plans, recently added to the [H.I.P. Pocket Change](#) Web site!

Lesson Name	Curricular Area	Grade Level(s)
1. Counting the 50 States	Social Studies	3-5
2. Coin Archaeology	Mathematics	6-8

Please remember that your coin-centric lesson plans are always a welcomed addition to H.I.P. Pocket Change, and may be [submitted](#) directly to the site at any point in time!



[Teacher Features](#) – While you can always find these great classroom ideas in the Teachers section of H.I.P. Pocket Change, be sure to click on the Teacher Feature icon whenever you spot it on the site to find ideas that relate directly to whatever you've just read!

Feature Name	Related Content	Covered Curricular Area
1. I Hear an "A"	January's Coin of the Month	Language Arts



[50 State Quarters® Program Lesson Plans](#) – Download these brand new FREE lesson plans that were created specifically with the 2004 quarters in mind for grades K-1, 2-3, and 4-6! They will expand your students' knowledge about the individual states, related history and geography, and the rich diversity of our national heritage.

Are you a secondary teacher interested in introducing the 50 State Quarters Program into your curriculum? Well, now you can! We are very excited to introduce our brand new 50 State Quarters Program lesson plans, written by educators, and designed for grades 7-12. Visit the [50 State Quarters Program Lesson Plans](#) page to download these FREE plans today!

Be on the lookout for...

There are a lot of exciting things taking place at H.I.P. Pocket Change this month! You're going to want to make sure to return to the site throughout the month to explore these new features:



State Quarter Day In The Classroom – Examine all of the fun classroom activity ideas that H.I.P. Pocket Change has developed to help you celebrate the launch of the new Michigan quarter in your own classroom!

The Coins Are Coming – Be among the first to see the newest quarters designed for the 50 State Quarters Program. Keep an eye out for the new Michigan, Texas, Florida, Iowa, and Wisconsin quarters, premiering on the H.I.P. Pocket Change Web site this month!

All of these resources, and more, are at your fingertips each time you return to the United States Mint **H.I.P. Pocket Change!**

Thanks again for your interest in all United States Mint activities. If you find this information useful, make sure you share it with a friend!