The Penny Game

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core Standards: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.2.A, RF.1.2.A, RF.2.3.A, RI.K.2, RI.1.2 and RI.2.2.

This game is an absolute favorite among my writing campers. If you have pennies laying around your house, gather them up. Have fun watching your child or children play! Each child has 60 seconds do any ONE of the following:

Rattle off as many facts as he/she can about a given animal or topic
Say as many vocabulary words as he/she can about a given topic
Say as many words as he/she can that begin with a particular letter or blend
Say as many words as he/she can that rhyme with a particular word

Set up and play:

1. You'll need a jar full of pennies.

2. You and your children can sit in a circle on the floor or at the kitchen table.

3. Pour a pile of pennies onto the floor in front of the first child.

4. Set a timer for 1 minute.
5. Say "go" and start the timer.
6. The child speaking slides a penny from the pile to him or herself every time he/she states a fact or names a word.
7. As soon as the timer sounds, the player stops speaking and keeps the pennies earned.
8. Play until everyone has had a turn!
