



DESIGN YOUR OWN ANCIENT COIN!

Congratulations! You have just been elected ruler of your own kingdom. Like the rulers of ancient Greece, your first job is to design a coin so that all your subjects know who you are.

First of all, let's start by looking at some coins other famous rulers made. Go to the Teece Museum collection search at www.teecemuseum.nz/collection-search/ and type **COIN** into the search bar. While you browse through the coins online, see if you can answer these questions:

1. Alexander the Great was sometimes represented as a mythological hero on his coins. What was the name of that hero? (Hint, his name starts with H)

2. Name two kinds of metals that were used to make ancient coins?

3. The winged goddess Nike often appears on ancient coins. What does Nike represent? (Hint, try typing Nike into the search bar and select one of the objects that appear)

4. Portraits of rulers were sometimes very realistic. Look at the coin which features Antiochus VIII. What facial feature of his was emphasised in his portrait?

Looking at these ancient coins tells us that they weren't just used for buying things. Coins could also be used to tell people who was in power and what made them special. To do that, coins might include:

- The name and title of the ruler or king, and their portrait
- The date and place the coin was made
- A picture of a powerful god or goddess
- A picture of a special animal or plant
- An image of an important building or place
- A picture of a special event or great victory



Now you have looked at some ancient coins, it's time to think about your own design:

- Will you use an image of yourself on your coin? Will your self-portrait have special clothes or carry magical tools?
- Will you design a coin that looks like it is made from precious metal, or could it be made from a modern material?
- Will you use pictures of mythical creatures or modern day heroes to make your coin more impressive?
- Could you use special patterns or symbols to represent your culture and beliefs?

Using the template below, design a coin for your new kingdom and write two or three sentences explaining why you've chosen your design, and what the symbols on your coin represent about you.

Ask your parents or guardians to help you share your coin on Facebook or Instagram with the hashtags **#ChildrensUniversityNZ** and **#TeeceMuseumCoinDesign**

Many people in the ancient world could not earn enough money to buy food for their families. To help their parents, a lot of children in ancient Greece or Rome would have had to go out to work, and often would have gone hungry.

In New Zealand today, almost one in every five children live in a house where their families are not able to afford a good diet. Like children in ancient times, they are also going hungry.

Want to do a little to help? Later in 2020 the Teece Museum will be collecting food for the Christchurch City Mission. See our Facebook page for details.





Three vertical lines for writing.

