

Dollar Words

by Gary Stager

How many dollar words can you think of? You say you don't know what a dollar word is? Well, I'll let you in on the secret. A dollar word is a word in which the sum of its individual letters equals \$1.00. Here's how it works... The letter "A" is worth 1, "B" = 2, "Z" = 26, etc.

Type in these three short procedures (see below) In order to find out the value of a word (using the "Dollar Word" rules), type PRINT VALUE "theword (theword should be replaced with the word you wish to evaluate.)

Example: PR VALUE "Gary
\$0.51
PR VALUE "Elephants
\$1

How many dollar words can you think of?

What is the shortest possible word that could be worth \$1? What is the longest? Can you think of some quarter words? How about some dime words?

The procedures

LogoWriter:

```
to value :word
output word "$ (getvalue :word) / 100
end
```

```
to getvalue :word
if empty? :word [op 0]
output (ascii.value (first :word)) +
getvalue bf :word
end
```

```
to ascii.value :character
if (ascii :character) > 96 [output
(ascii :character) - 96]
if (ascii :character) > 64 [output
(ascii :character) - 64]
output ascii :character
end
```

Terrapin Logo 3.0:

```
TO VALUE :WORD
OUTPUT WORD "$ (GETVALUE :WORD) / 100
END
```

```
TO GETVALUE :WORD
IF EMPTY? :WORD OP 0
OUTPUT (ASCII.VALUE (FIRST :WORD)) +
GETVALUE BF :WORD
END
```

```
TO ASCII.VALUE :CHARACTER
IF (ASCII :CHARACTER) > 96 OUTPUT
(ASCII :CHARACTER) - 96
IF (ASCII :CHARACTER) > 64 OUTPUT
(ASCII :CHARACTER) - 64
OUTPUT ASCII :CHARACTER
END
```

Some optional procedures:

```
to dollar? :word
output 100 = get.value :word
end
```

```
to worth :word :value
output :value = :getvalue :word
end
```

```
to quarter          to nickel
output 25           output 5
end                 end
```

```
to dime             to dollar
output 10           output 100
end                 end
```

```
PRINT DOLLAR? "GARY
False
```

```
PRINT DOLLAR? "ELEPHANTS
True
```

```
PRINT WORTH "GARY QUARTER
False
```



If you tried this activity with students, the author would appreciate knowing how it went.