



GIVE CHANGE FOR CHANGE

How To Organize G9 Penny Wars
2017-2018 Instructions

OBJECT:

G9 Penny Wars is a week-long event that creates friendly competition between grade levels, classrooms, clubs and/or school sports teams in order to raise funds for a good cause.

The object is to accumulate as many points as possible for the grade, classroom, club or team by adding and subtracting the value of coins and dollar bills. Students put their own pennies in a container belonging to their grade/team. One point is awarded for every penny in the container. Points are subtracted when students put silver coins or dollar bills into the containers of other classes. A nickel reduces the points by 5, a dime by 10, a dollar by 100, etc. The class with the most overall points at the end of G9 Penny Wars is the winner!

The goal of G9 Penny Wars is for teams, whether you win or lose, to raise awareness and funds of over \$1,000+ per school, to support childhood cancer research. And it's an easy way to put spare change to good use!

THINGS YOU WILL NEED:

- **Complimentary G9 Penny Wars Kit** (download online: www.goldinseptember.com/g9-penny-wars)
- **Large, enclosed containers** are needed (1 per class or team)
 - SUGGESTION: Use clear containers (such as water jugs) so the coins are visible. Clear water jugs usually available at Walmart.

PREPARATION:

- Designate 2 adult chair people (staff, student teacher, PTO, or trusted parent) to organize the event.
- Designate a Youth Leadership Committee (5+ students).
- **Commitment form:** Return G9 Penny Wars Commitment Form from the complimentary *G9 Penny Wars Kit* to cindy@goldinseptember.org (download online: www.goldinseptember.com/g9-penny-wars).
- **Time frame:** G9 Penny Wars runs for 1 week (5 consecutive school days), and must be completed between September 1, 2016 - April 1, 2017.
 - SUGGESTION: Plan G9 Penny Wars in September to coincide with national childhood cancer awareness month.
- **Plan a kick-off:** Get everyone excited and ready; have fun with it!
 - SUGGESTION: Show G9 video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hi2NLuy5Bc4>) at an assembly (or send video link to teaching staff to show in class), explaining what G9 Penny Wars is.
- **Promotion:** Build awareness and hype for G9 Penny Wars using flyers, provided in the complimentary *G9 Penny Wars Kit*, a week prior to the event.
 - SUGGESTION: On the first or final day of G9 Penny Wars, encourage all students to wear gold to raise awareness of childhood cancer.
 - SUGGESTION: Add G9 Penny Wars to the school announcements or communications (school newsletter, local newspaper, social media) ahead of time, during the event, and afterwards to thank everyone for participating.
- **Container placement:** Consider placing containers in a central location where there is adult supervision, such as the front office or library. Each container should be labeled with the grade level, name of the class teacher, a room number, or any other appropriate team identification.
 - SUGGESTION: Use the customizable G9 labels provided in the complimentary *G9 Penny Wars Kit*.
- **Track progress:** Throughout G9 Penny Wars, see who is winning and trailing behind. Lots changes in a day!
 - SUGGESTION: Consider using a chalk board, chart, or whiteboard above the containers to track team progress. Or create your own thermometer as a fun visual way to show progress!

PLAY:

On the day G9 Penny Wars begins, students put their pennies in the container belonging to their team. One point is received for every penny in the container. This continues for the duration of G9 Penny Wars.

“BLITZING”:

Students may put silver coins and paper currency into the containers of OTHER teams (known as “blitzing”). Each silver coin or paper bill reduces the number of points from that container by the amount of the coin or bill. For example, a nickel reduces the points by 5, a dime by 10, a dollar by 100, etc. This is where strategy counts. Have fun with it!

ADULT CHAIR PEOPLE:

2 adult chair people will be responsible for:

- Organizing the event
- Scheduling kick-off assembly
- Identifying Youth Leadership Committee (5+ students)
- Building hype throughout G9 Penny Wars event
- Determining school incentives (ice cream social, pizza party, etc.)
- Awarding winning team
- Liaising with Cindy Milgram, at cindy@goldinseptember.org, if any questions arise

YOUTH LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The Youth Leadership Committee (5+ students) will be responsible for event preparation, tracking progress, and coin counting as follows:

- **Event preparation:** Includes disseminating flyers, putting up posters, and building hype through announcements.
- **Tracking progress:** Includes updating school and team progress throughout G9 Penny Wars, and continuing to build hype and keep students engaged.
- **Coin counting:** Containers should be emptied and counted numerous times throughout the G9 Penny Wars to track progress. After the final day of G9 Penny Wars, containers are emptied and counted one final time. The amount of silver coins and paper currency is deducted from the total number of pennies. BE AWARE, there could be negative totals if students are “blitzing” other classes. Therefore, the winner could be a team with the least negative points total!
 - SUGGESTION: Talk to your 2 adult chair people and consider partnering with your local bank to determine the best way to organize money (best times to bring coins to the bank, how to have coins and bills organized, etc.) and deposit funds raised.
 - SUGGESTION: Counting may require additional parent volunteers.



SHARE YOUR SUCCESS:

We want to hear about your successful G9 Penny Wars!

- Take a photo of all participants upon completion of G9 Penny Wars .
 - SUGGESTION: Purchase the *Kick-off Kit* and use the large blank check graphic to photograph participants and how much they raised. After the event, the large check can be displayed in the school notifying everyone of the success of the event.
- Share your story socially via #G9PennyWars (participants + teams wearing gold, the school kick-off assembly, the reward party with the winning team, anything that embodies your favorite memories from G9 Penny Wars is great content).
- Email feedback and success stories to cindy@goldinseptember.org so we can improve G9 Penny Wars.

All schools that participate will receive coupons good for a free order of McDonald's® French Fries (1 per student or teacher). The school who raises the most money by April 1, 2107 will receive a special visit from a Green Bay Packers player in May 2017, and recognition from McDonald's® Restaurants of Southeastern Wisconsin.

WINNING TEAM AT YOUR SCHOOL:

The team with the most overall points (which could be the least amount of negative points) at the end of G9 Penny Wars is the winner and can be rewarded in numerous ways. The 2 adult chair people are responsible for determining school incentives and awarding the winning team at your school.

- SUGGESTION: Use the G9 logo on the pennant or make a "gold cup" or other G9 trophy in art class, declaring the "Champion for Childhood Cancer."
- SUGGESTION: Solicit your PTA or a local business to sponsor the winning prize, perhaps a pizza or movie party, or PJ Day. This could also be a reward to everyone for participating.

GIVE CHANGE FOR CHANGE:

All funds raised will be donated to Gold In September® (G9) Charitable Trust, founded by 14-year old Annie Bartosz, who lost her twin brother to cancer. G9 is a childhood cancer non-profit dedicated to increasing funding for childhood cancer research and initiatives by growing awareness that inspires action to help every child, everywhere.

**Thank you to your school and students for participating in G9 Penny Wars.
Best of luck!**



"A lot of kids don't realize they have the potential to make a difference in the world."

-G9 Founder, Annie Bartosz, 14-year old from Hartland, WI

