Fill a Bucket

This is a simple bucket lesson for bucket fillers everywhere and anywhere - home, school or work.

First buy, make, or borrow a bucket and put it in a place where you'll see it every day. Our bucket sits on a small table inside the door next to the garage. Continually fill your bucket with spare change you find from your purse, wallet, pockets, or car.

My husband and I use a clear ice bucket. These sometimes have a slit on the lid that makes it easy to drop in our coins. In the past we've used smaller, colored metal buckets for our coins, but we've found that it's more fun and challenging to fill a large ice bucket. That way we're able to
see how much we have collected. We’ve been adding to our bucket for nearly a year. However, if you have smaller children, you might want to start with a smaller bucket that will take less time to fill. We also "borrow-proofed" our bucket by taping the lid to the bucket closed. (see photo below)

If it's a school project, you can have your students bring their pennies to school. At home, you can have a "family bucket" for everyone to contribute. You can even have individual buckets for each child. Suggest that your children contribute part of their allowance or any money they may earn.

When your bucket is full, it's fun to count the coins as a family or class. Then, decide whose bucket you will fill and deliver the money to a charity everyone agrees upon. Be sure to include your children in the selection and giving process.

We are currently discussing who will receive our coins, knowing that whoever we may choose, our buckets will be overflowing. Then we get the joy in looking forward to "spending" another year filling our bucket by the garage door.

For even more ideas, be sure to check out our past Bucket Lessons on our website!