Bright as a Penny

Soap and water won't clean metals very easily. That takes a special cleaner—or you can try lemon juice!

**What to do:** Squeeze the lemon juice into the glass. Soak the coin in lemon juice for 5 minutes.

**What happens:** You fish out a shiny coin!

**Why:** Oxygen in the air combined with the copper to form the dull copper oxide coating. The acid of the lemon acts chemically to remove the oxide—and the result? A bright copper penny. Vinegar will work the same way.

YOU NEED

- lemon
- small glass
- dull penny or other copper coin