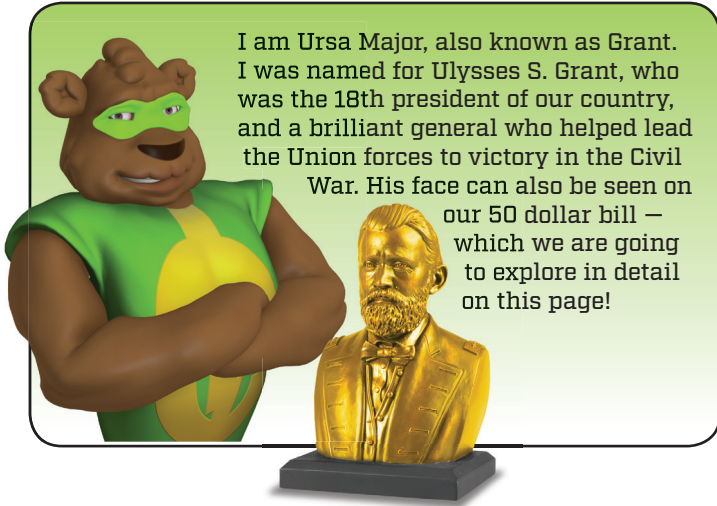
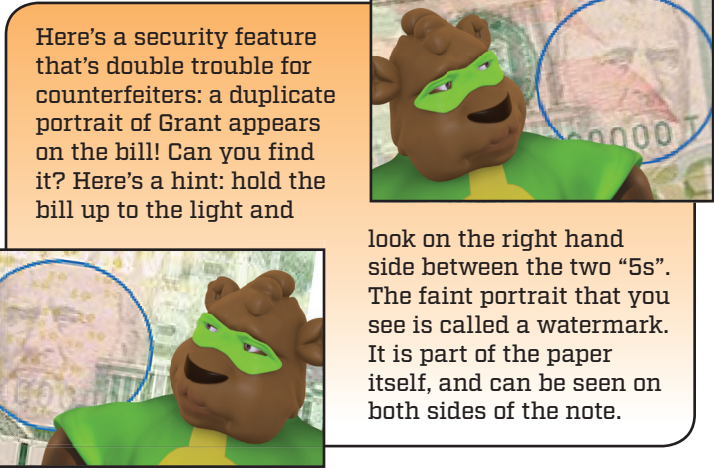


# CLOSE-UP ON CURRENCY

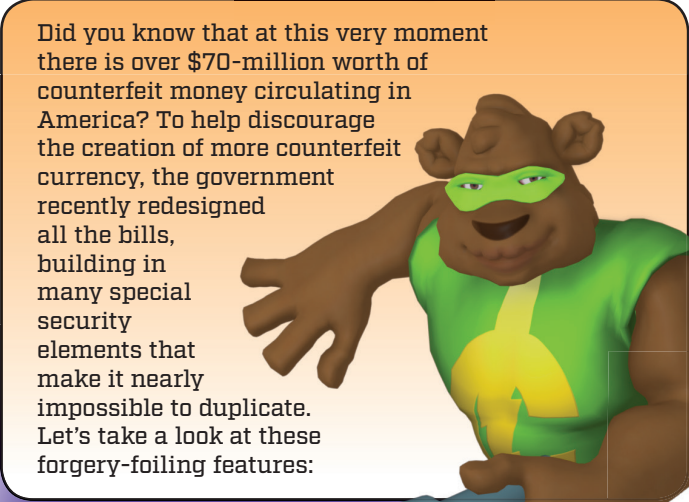
## BE AN ANTI-COUNTERFEIT SLEUTH!



I am Ursa Major, also known as Grant. I was named for Ulysses S. Grant, who was the 18th president of our country, and a brilliant general who helped lead the Union forces to victory in the Civil War. His face can also be seen on our 50 dollar bill – which we are going to explore in detail on this page!



Here's a security feature that's double trouble for counterfeiters: a duplicate portrait of Grant appears on the bill! Can you find it? Here's a hint: hold the bill up to the light and look on the right hand side between the two "5s". The faint portrait that you see is called a watermark. It is part of the paper itself, and can be seen on both sides of the note.



Did you know that at this very moment there is over \$70-million worth of counterfeit money circulating in America? To help discourage the creation of more counterfeit currency, the government recently redesigned all the bills, building in many special security elements that make it nearly impossible to duplicate. Let's take a look at these forgery-foiling features:



All new currency is now designed with different background colors and symbols of freedom. The \$50 bill features shades of red and blue, a waving flag and a metallic silver-blue star. Watch that "50" in the lower right corner change from copper to green when you tilt the bill, thanks to color-shifting ink. Look really close and you'll see tiny microprinting: "FIFTY," "USA" and "50" are found in two blue stars just left of the portrait; "50" is repeated on both side borders; and look under Grant's beard to find "THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" printed on his collar!



When you hold the bill up to the light, you will see a small plastic strip. This security thread, which is visible from both sides of the bill, is actually embedded in the paper. If you look very closely you'll see a tiny flag and the words "USA 50" on the thread. When the bill is placed under an ultraviolet light, the strip will glow yellow.