POEM
Educating the Youth on the Future of Money

Lesson One: Introduction to Digital Currency

Objective: To introduce students aged 11-14 to the basic concepts of digital currency in a fun and engaging manner.

Introduction (10 minutes): Begin the lesson by asking students what they know about money and how they use it in their daily lives. Then, explain that digital currency is like money but exists only in digital form and can be used for online transactions.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BL5vUVQvmX4

Discussion (10 minutes): After watching the video, facilitate a discussion with the students:

- What is digital currency?
- How is it different from traditional money?
- Can you think of any examples of digital currency?

Activity: Design Your Own Digital Coin (15 minutes): Divide the class into small groups and provide each group with materials such as paper, markers, and stickers. Instruct them to design their own digital coins, including a unique name, symbol, and value. Encourage creativity and innovation in their designs.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SzAuB2FG79A

Discussion (10 minutes): After watching the video, lead a discussion on Bitcoin:

- What is Bitcoin?
- How does it work?
- Why do you think Bitcoin is popular?

Activity: Crypto Quiz (15 minutes): Organize a fun quiz with questions related to digital currency, including basic terminology, Bitcoin, and its features. You can use online quiz platforms or traditional pen-and-paper quizzes. Award small prizes to the students or groups with the highest scores.

Reflection (10 minutes): Encourage students to reflect on what they've learned about digital currency during the lesson. Ask them to consider how digital currency might change the way we think about money and transactions in the future.

Homework: Assign students to research a famous person or event related to digital currency and write a short paragraph explaining its significance.

Conclusion: Summarize the key points covered in the lesson and highlight the importance of understanding digital currency in today's world. Encourage students to continue exploring the topic and to ask questions if they're curious about anything related to digital finance.

Lesson Two: Exploring Different Types of Cryptocurrencies

Objective: To introduce students aged 11-14 to various types of cryptocurrencies and their functionalities in a simplified manner.

Introduction (10 minutes): Begin the lesson by recapping the concept of digital currency briefly. Ask students to recall what they learned in the previous lesson about digital currency and its basic features. Explain that today, they will learn about different types of digital currencies called cryptocurrencies.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4g1XFU8Gto

Discussion (15 minutes): After watching the video, facilitate a discussion on cryptocurrencies:

- What are cryptocurrencies?
- Can you name some examples of cryptocurrencies mentioned in the video?
- How do cryptocurrencies differ from traditional money?

Activity: Crypto Match-Up (20 minutes): Create a set of cards, each featuring the name and logo of a different cryptocurrency (e.g., Bitcoin, Ethereum, Litecoin). Divide the class into small groups and distribute the cards. Instruct students to match each cryptocurrency with its corresponding description or feature. This activity will help reinforce their understanding of different cryptocurrencies and their functionalities.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7Vg2iuJPoY

Discussion (15 minutes): After watching the video, lead a discussion on Ethereum:

- What is Ethereum?
- How does it differ from Bitcoin?
- What are some unique features or functionalities of Ethereum?

Activity: Cryptocurrency Trivia (20 minutes): Organize a trivia game with questions related to various cryptocurrencies, their history, features, and notable events in the cryptocurrency world. Divide the class into teams and award points for correct answers. This activity will make learning about cryptocurrencies interactive and enjoyable.

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Reflection (10 minutes): Encourage students to reflect on what they've learned about different types of cryptocurrencies during the lesson. Ask them to consider which cryptocurrency they find most interesting and why.

Homework: Assign students to research a specific cryptocurrency of their choice and create a simple infographic highlighting its key features, history, and potential uses.

Conclusion: Summarize the key points covered in the lesson and emphasize the diversity of cryptocurrencies beyond Bitcoin. Encourage students to continue exploring the world of digital finance and to stay curious about emerging technologies.

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Lesson Three: Exploring the Basics of Blockchain Technology

Objective: To introduce students aged 11-14 to the fundamental concepts of blockchain technology in an accessible and engaging manner.

Introduction (10 minutes): Begin the lesson by asking students if they've heard of blockchain technology and what they know about it. Explain that blockchain is the underlying technology behind digital currencies like Bitcoin, and it's essentially a decentralized and secure way of recording transactions.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRxL2GKDU5E

Discussion (15 minutes): After watching the video, lead a discussion on blockchain technology:

- What is blockchain, and how does it work?
- Why is blockchain considered secure and transparent?
- Can you think of any other potential applications of blockchain technology besides digital currency?

Activity: Building a Paper Chain Blockchain (20 minutes): Divide the class into small groups and provide each group with strips of paper and markers. Instruct them to simulate a blockchain by writing down transactions on each strip of paper and then linking them together in chronological order. Emphasize the importance of consensus in adding new blocks to the chain.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmOzih6I1zs

Discussion (15 minutes): After watching the video, facilitate a discussion on the role of miners in the blockchain network:

- What is Bitcoin mining, and how does it contribute to the security of the blockchain?
- Why is mining necessary for verifying transactions and adding new blocks to the blockchain?
- What are some environmental concerns associated with Bitcoin mining?

Activity: Design Your Own Blockchain (20 minutes): Challenge students to brainstorm and design their own blockchain system on paper. Encourage them to consider the structure, consensus mechanism, and potential applications of their blockchain. After designing, students can share their ideas with the class and discuss the benefits and limitations of their designs.

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Reflection (10 minutes): Ask students to reflect on what they've learned about blockchain technology during the lesson. Encourage them to think about how blockchain might revolutionize various industries and systems in the future.

Homework: Assign students to research a real-world application of blockchain technology (e.g., supply chain management, voting systems) and write a short report discussing its potential impact.

Conclusion: Summarize the key points covered in the lesson and emphasize the significance of blockchain technology in the context of digital currency and beyond. Encourage students to stay curious and explore further topics related to technology and finance.