

Cryptocurrency: Fad or Future?

TOPIC: FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF CYBERSECURITY, ETHICS

GRADES: 6-8

LESSON DURATION: 45 MINUTES

SOFT SKILLS: COMMUNICATION, CRITICAL THINKING

Introduction:

- This lesson is designed to give students an elementary look at the idea of cryptocurrency using a brief presentation. An article is also available. This lesson is also placed in the senior-level Econ course.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will display a basic understanding of cryptocurrency and how it works.

Teacher Materials:

- [Article on cryptocurrency](#)
- [Presentation](#)

Activities:

1. The teacher should introduce the topic of cryptocurrency. Explain to students that this topic is related to cryptography.
2. Begin with this [4 minute video from Khan Academy](#) to introduce/review public key cryptography. *All Khan Academy content is available for free at www.khanacademy.org.*
3. Ensure that students understand the basics of public key cryptography by reviewing the Alice and Bob example from the video.
4. Once students understand public key, begin a basic discussion of cryptocurrency.
5. [A presentation is available here.](#)
6. After the discussion, the teacher may ask students to reflect on the positives and negatives of cryptocurrency. (Included as last two slides in presentation)
7. The teacher may choose to develop a Kahoot! to judge student's learning.

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