Module 6: Staying Safe and Thinking Critically

Teacher Overview

Bitcoin offers freedom and opportunity — but it also comes with responsibility. In this module, students will learn how to stay safe in the Bitcoin world by protecting their private keys, avoiding scams, and spotting misinformation. The lesson also encourages critical thinking about Bitcoin's limitations and what it means for the future of money.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify common Bitcoin scams and how to avoid them

- Understand the importance of securing private keys and wallets

- Recognize trustworthy vs. misleading Bitcoin information

- Evaluate Bitcoin's strengths and limitations

- Think critically about how Bitcoin could evolve or be challenged

Key Concepts to Cover

- Self-custody: Why holding your own private keys matters

- Wallet security: Passwords, backups, and hardware wallets

- Common scams: Giveaways, phishing, fake wallets, Ponzi schemes

- Social media & misinformation: How to verify facts and avoid hype

- Critical thinking: Bitcoin isn't perfect — discuss scalability, energy use, and real-world adoption

- Staying curious: Learning how to ask good questions and find trusted sources

Discussion Questions
- What makes a Bitcoin wallet secure or insecure?

- Why do scammers target Bitcoin users?

- Have you seen misinformation about Bitcoin online? How can you tell?

- What are some fair criticisms of Bitcoin — and how might they be solved?

- What questions do you still have about Bitcoin?

Suggested Activities
- Bitcoin Scam Hunt: Look at mock examples of common scams (emails, tweets, fake wallets). Have students spot the red flags.

- Wallet Safety Demo: Show (or simulate) how to back up a wallet and explain seed phrases.

- Debate or Essay: "Is Bitcoin more helpful or more harmful for society?" Let students take a side and defend it.

Extension and Homework
- Watch: [How Technology is Reshaping Scams (ft. @ColdFusion) — Part 1](#) (14 min)

- Read: [The Basics of Bitcoin Security](#)

- Write: A personal safety checklist — what would you do to protect your Bitcoin if you had some?