

Web3 and Blockchain Basics – Hands-on Submission

This document presents my hands-on learning experience with Web3 and blockchain fundamentals. The objective of this task was to gain practical exposure by setting up a crypto wallet, connecting to an Ethereum test network, acquiring testnet assets, and interacting with a decentralized application (DApp). All activities were performed in a safe testnet environment using industry-standard tools.

1. Wallet Setup (MetaMask)

I installed the MetaMask browser extension from the official website and created a new wallet. During setup, a Secret Recovery Phrase was generated and securely stored offline. The wallet was successfully initialized and ready for Web3 interaction.

2. Network Configuration

The wallet was configured to use the Ethereum Sepolia Test Network. This ensures all transactions are performed with test ETH, eliminating real financial risk.

3. Receiving Testnet ETH

Testnet ETH was requested using the Alchemy and Chainlink Sepolia faucets. The wallet address was copied from MetaMask and used to receive test tokens.

4. Transaction Verification

All incoming transactions were verified on Sepolia Etherscan using the transaction hash. The explorer confirmed successful transfers and block confirmations.

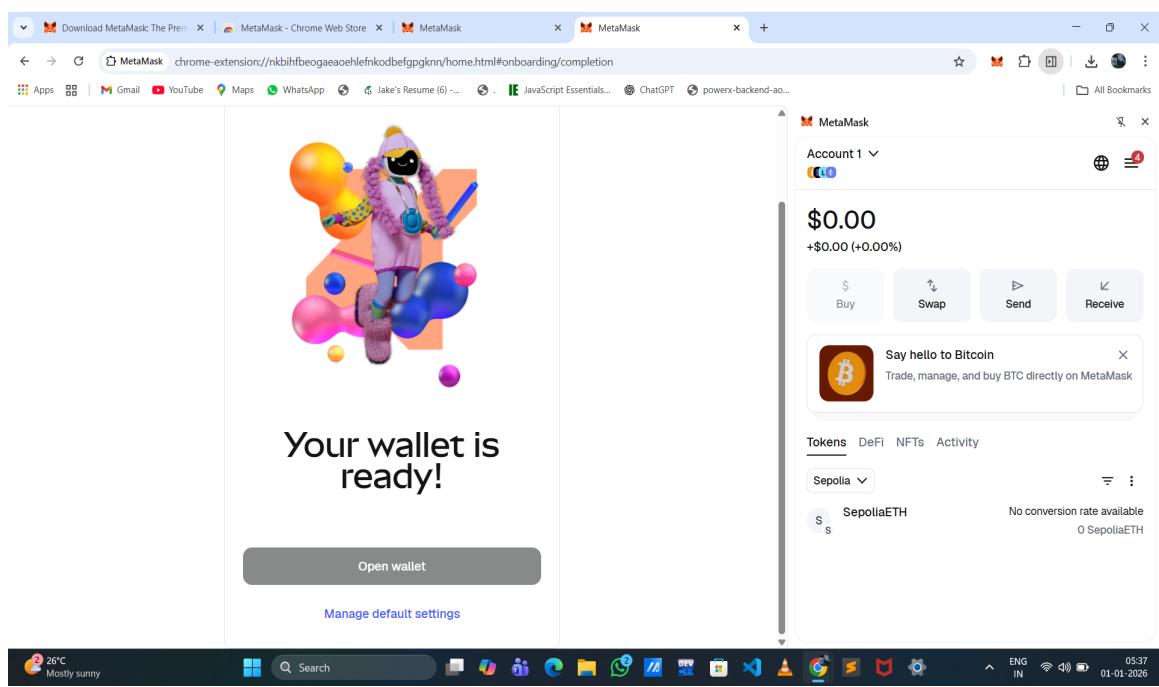
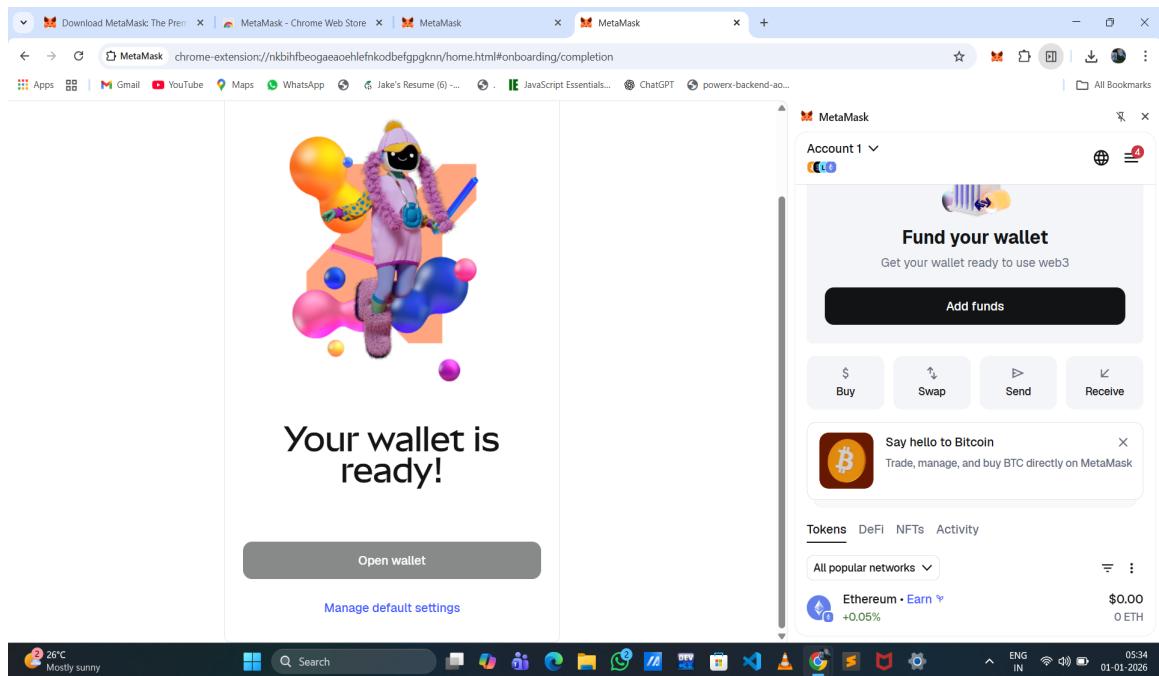
5. DApp Interaction (Uniswap)

The MetaMask wallet was connected to the Uniswap DApp on the Sepolia network. The interface successfully detected the wallet, allowing on-chain interactions.

6. Additional Web3 Exploration

The wallet was also connected to ENS and MetaMask Portfolio interfaces, demonstrating cross-DApp compatibility and user-controlled identity.

Screenshots Evidence



The screenshot shows a web browser window with three tabs open:

- Download MetaMask: The Premiership
- MetaMask - Chrome Web Store
- MetaMask Portfolio - Stake

The central content area displays the "Stake" section of the MetaMask interface. It includes a message about high demand for unstaking, a "Stake ETH" form (0 ETH, \$0.00), and a "Staking info" section showing a rewards rate of 2.3%. A "Connect wallet" button is present at the bottom.

To the right, a separate window titled "MetaMask" is open, showing "Account 1" with a balance of \$0.00. It features buttons for Buy, Swap, Send, and Receive. A Bitcoin wallet integration window is also visible. The "Tokens" tab is selected, showing a SepoliaETH token with a balance of 0 SepoliaETH.

The taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock (01-01-2026).

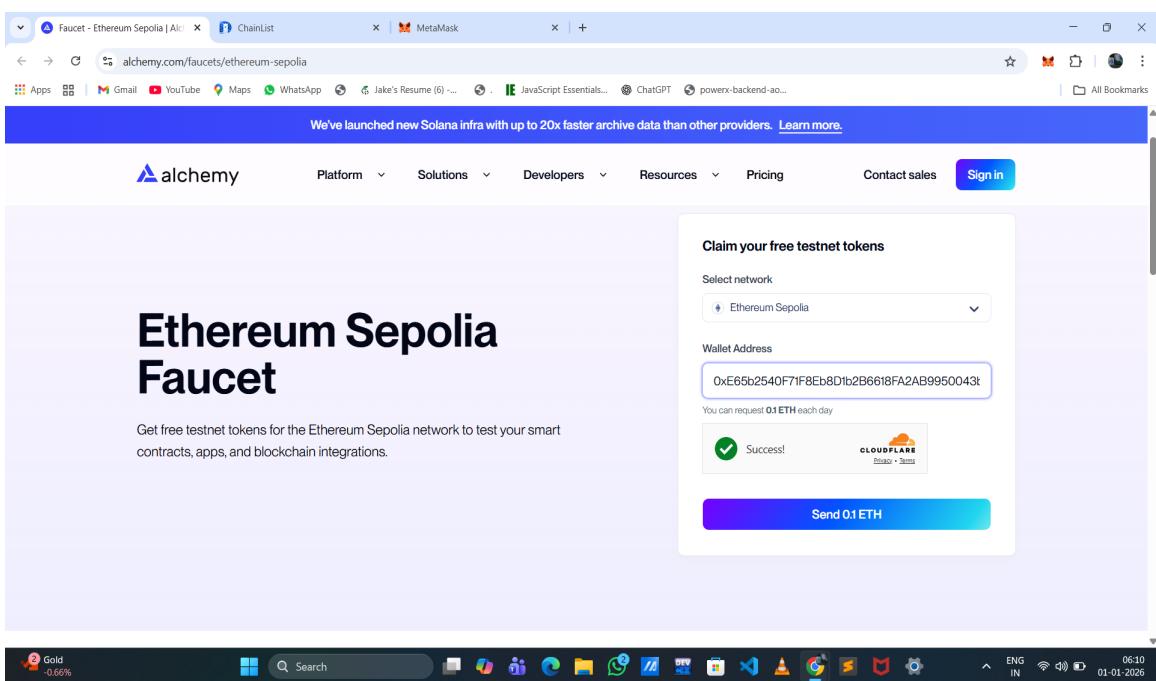
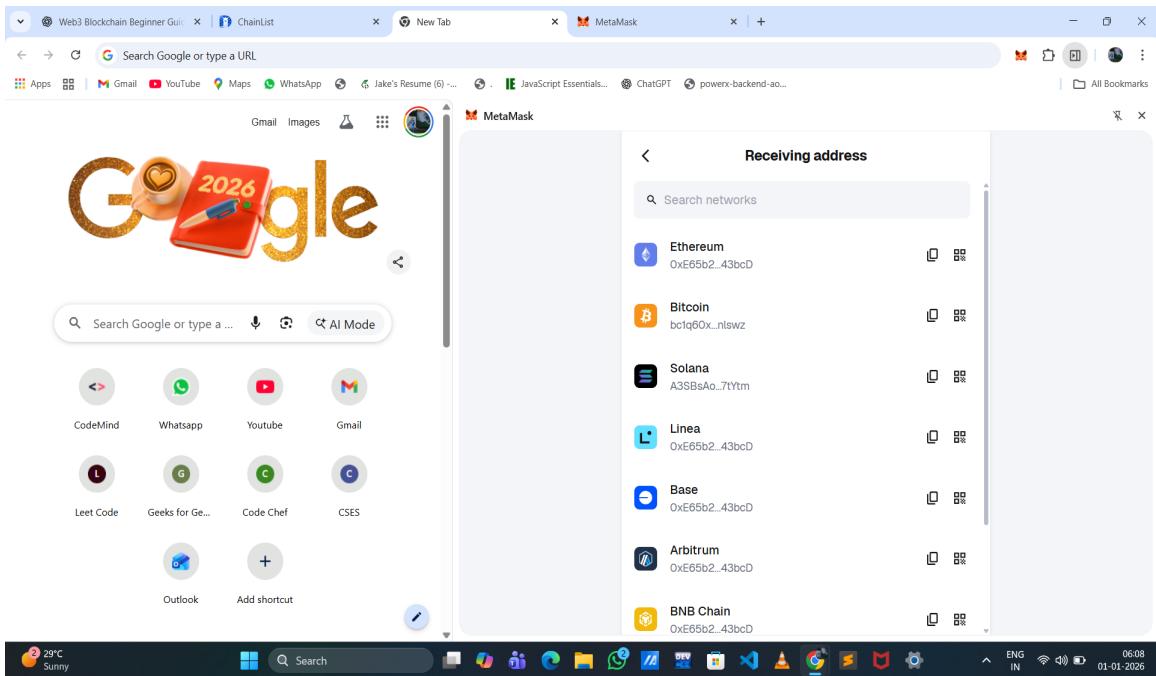
The screenshot shows a web browser window with three tabs open:

- Web3 Blockchain Beginner Guide
- ChainList
- New Tab

The central content area displays the Google homepage with a 2026-themed logo. Below the search bar, there are links for various services like Gmail, Images, and YouTube. A sidebar on the left lists links such as CodeMind, Whatsapp, Youtube, Gmail, Leet Code, Geeks for Geeks, Code Chef, CSES, Outlook, and Add shortcut.

To the right, a separate window titled "MetaMask" is open, showing "Account 1" with a balance of \$0.00. It features buttons for Buy, Swap, Send, and Receive. A Bitcoin wallet integration window is also visible. The "Tokens" tab is selected, showing a SepoliaETH token with a balance of 0 SepoliaETH. A "chainlist.org" entry is listed under the account dropdown.

The taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock (01-01-2026).



The screenshot shows the Uniswap Swap interface. At the top, there are tabs for Swap, Limit, Buy, and Sell. The Swap tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are two input fields: 'Sell' and 'Buy'. In the 'Sell' field, '0 ETH' is selected. In the 'Buy' field, '0' is selected, and a 'Select token' button is visible. A pink button at the bottom says 'Add funds to swap'. A small modal window in the bottom-left corner says 'Enjoy free trading on Uniswap apps' and 'No more app fees on trades on the Uniswap Protocol.' The status bar at the bottom shows a weather icon for 29°C and 'Sunny'.

The screenshot shows the ENS homepage. At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search for a name'. Below the search bar, a message says 'Namechain is coming!' followed by 'Keep up with ENSv2 development' and a green 'ENSv2 hub' button. The status bar at the bottom shows a weather icon for 29°C and 'Sunny'.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with two open tabs. The left tab, titled 'Getting tokens', displays a message: 'Your testnet tokens are being sent.' It lists two transactions under the heading 'Ethereum Sepolia': one for 'Drips 0.5 ETH' and another for 'Drips 25'. Both transactions are shown as 'Sending' with transaction IDs: 0xe65b2540f71f8eb8d1b2b6618fa2... and 0xe65b2540f71f8eb8d1b2b6618fa2... respectively. The right tab, titled 'Signature request', shows a 'MetaMask' interface. It has a header 'Account 1' with a 'Sepolia' network icon. Below it, a message reads: 'Review request details before you confirm.' It lists the 'Network' as 'Sepolia' and 'Request from' as 'faucets.chain.link'. A 'Message' field contains: 'Welcome to Chainlink Faucets! We require a signature in order to ensure you are the owner of the wallet requesting funds.' At the bottom are 'Cancel' and 'Confirm' buttons. The browser's address bar shows 'faucets.chain.link/sepolia'. The taskbar at the bottom includes icons for various applications like Gmail, YouTube, Maps, WhatsApp, ChatGPT, and powerx-backend-ao... along with system status indicators.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the transaction details on etherscan.io. The URL in the address bar is 'sepolia.etherscan.io/tx/0x5b3ede6b0f388441d586518780c1eb2cb8d87a7b5121d31012cb0c163f79cddd'. The page title is 'Sepolia Testnet'. The transaction overview shows: 'TRANSACTION ACTION' - Transfer 25 LINK to 0xE65b2540f71F8Eb8D1b2B6618FA2AB9950043bcd. A note '[This is a Sepolia Testnet transaction only]' is present. Transaction details include: Transaction Hash: 0x5b3ede6b0f388441d586518780c1eb2cb8d87a7b5121d31012cb0c163f79cddd; Status: Success; Block: 9957169 [19 Block Confirmations]; Timestamp: 3 mins ago (Jan-01-2026 06:54:00 AM UTC); From: 0x4281eCf07378Ee595C564a59048801330f3084eE; Interacted With (To): 0x779877A7B0D9E8603169DdbD7836e478b4624789; ERC-20 Tokens Transferred: All Transfers Net Transfers (From 0x4281eCf0... To 0xE65b2540... For 25 ERC-20: ChainLink To... (LINK)); Value: 0 ETH. The browser's address bar shows 'sepolia.etherscan.io/tx/0x5b3ede6b0f388441d586518780c1eb2cb8d87a7b5121d31012cb0c163f79cddd'. The taskbar at the bottom includes icons for various applications like Gmail, YouTube, Maps, WhatsApp, ChatGPT, and powerx-backend-ao... along with system status indicators.

Reflection

Reflection (300–500 words)

This practical exercise provided a clear understanding of how blockchain technology differs from traditional systems.

Unlike centralized databases that are controlled by a single authority, blockchain operates as a decentralized, immutable ledger distributed across many nodes. Once data is written to the blockchain and confirmed, it cannot be altered, ensuring transparency and trust without intermediaries.

Smart contracts played a key role in understanding decentralized applications. These are self-executing programs deployed on the blockchain that automatically perform actions when predefined conditions are met. Interacting with Uniswap demonstrated how smart contracts remove the need for centralized exchanges by allowing users to trade directly from their wallets.

Wallet security emerged as a critical responsibility in Web3. Unlike Web2 platforms where account recovery is possible, Web3 wallets rely entirely on private keys and recovery phrases. Losing access to these credentials results in permanent loss of funds. This reinforces the importance of secure offline storage and vigilance against phishing attacks.

Gas fees and transaction confirmation times were also observed. Every blockchain interaction consumes gas, which represents the computational cost paid to validators. On the Sepolia testnet, gas fees were minimal, but the process mirrored real mainnet conditions. Transactions required network confirmation and could be tracked transparently through a block explorer.

Overall, this task transformed abstract blockchain concepts into tangible experiences. Setting up a wallet, receiving testnet assets, and interacting with real DApps provided confidence and a strong foundation for future Web3 development and participation.