



Introducing young children to Artificial Intelligence

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) will transform the world as we know it. It is not a question of whether, but rather when, and to what extent things will change. AI will have a profound impact on how we live our everyday lives. This generation of children will grow up in a world where AI will be an integral part of that world.

2. My view is that it is important for young children to be exposed to AI early on, to build an understanding of and curiosity of this technology.

Indeed, AI is an excellent tool to develop critical thinking, problem-solving and encourages creativity from an early age. It is important for children to foster a digitally native mindset, helping them to understand and effectively use the very tools that will shape the world they live in.

3. There are a number of considerations when introducing AI to young children:

a) It is not easy to explain an abstract concept of AI to young children. So, it is perhaps easier to introduce them to more concrete



ideas first. One approach would be to relate AI to everyday experiences (e.g. voice assistants, augmented reality games, self-driving cars). Use simple words/ phrases to explain these examples, like 'smart robots that think, learn and play'

b) Many current AI models are mostly text-based. Young children tend to have a short attention span in plain text. I would suggest starting to introduce them to simple tasks (e.g. creating art and stories with AI).

c) Young children may not yet understand how to structure prompts, which is the primary mode of interaction with current AI models. This is a valuable learning experience— they need to learn how to prompt AI models effectively.

4. Even at a young age, there are many concepts that we can introduce to children through AI. The following are several ideas I believe can be explored:

a.) Cause and effect — for example, if I call up my virtual assistant on my



device, I can ask it what the weather is today, and it will respond.

b.) Patterns—for instance, if I ask the AI model to create a painting with certain features (such as circles and squares), what will it produce?

c.) Feedback loops — if I try asking the AI a similar question in a different way, will I get a different response? If I add more information to my original prompt, will it come back with a better answer—and why?

d.) Understanding the

limitations of technology—one of the key limitations of current AI models is that they can hallucinate, meaning their answers are not always accurate or true and need to be verified. It is important for children to understand the limitations.

2. My view is that children learn best through play, hands-on and tangible experiences; therefore, that is how I would approach introducing AI to them. Here are a few ideas I have experimented with:

a) Using artificial intelligence together—by asking AI to



help us plan what to cook for dinner.

- b) Engaging in interactive storytelling using AI—such as asking an AI model to create or expand on a story.
- c) Discussing what robots can do, such as self-driving cars.

3. An obvious concern that some parents may have is the issue of children having too much screen time. This is a valid concern, but like most things, it is about using AI in moderation. AI is becoming too important for our children not to learn, so I would introduce it early on to ensure they are equipped to thrive in the future.

Writer: Mr Raymond Yip

Yip Jonathan Alistair Ka Hei (N Buttercup)

(2025-2026)

A Tradition of Excellence
Since 1970