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#CSPDWeek2026

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New Jersey CSPDWeek

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Digital Citizenship & AI is Common Sense



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**common
sense
media**



<https://bit.ly/4xClwOL>

Here we are in 2026...

🐣 You've been training for this

When your kid was little, you helped them figure out what was real and true. You taught them to check with you before believing everything they hear and you showed them how to look things up in books or ask trusted adults when they had questions.



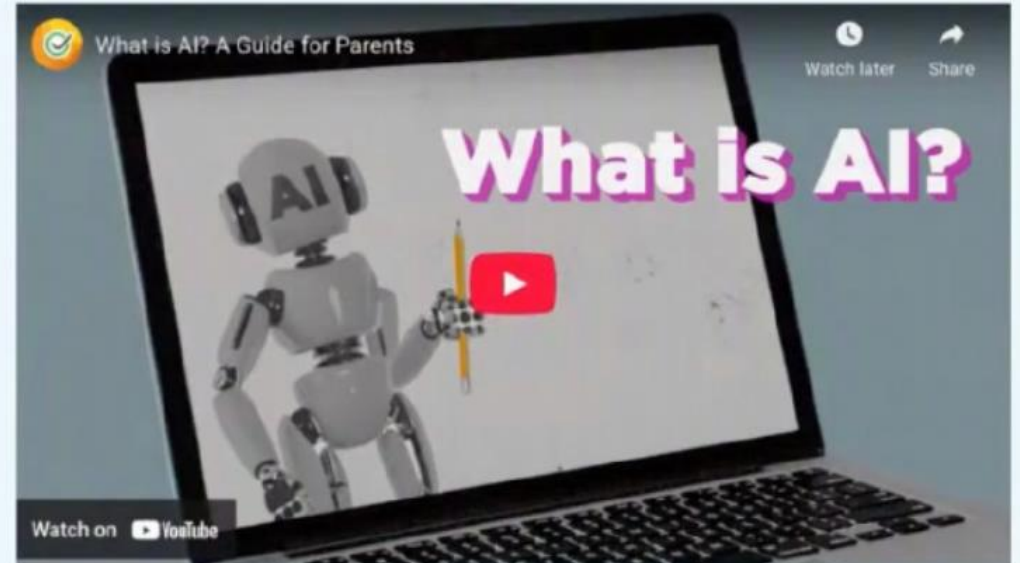
📱 The tech twist

Your kid needs to learn to be just as skeptical of what they see online as they would be of what some random person on the street tells them.



"Traditional" AI

Primarily focuses on analyzing data, making predictions, and automating tasks based on predefined rules and patterns.

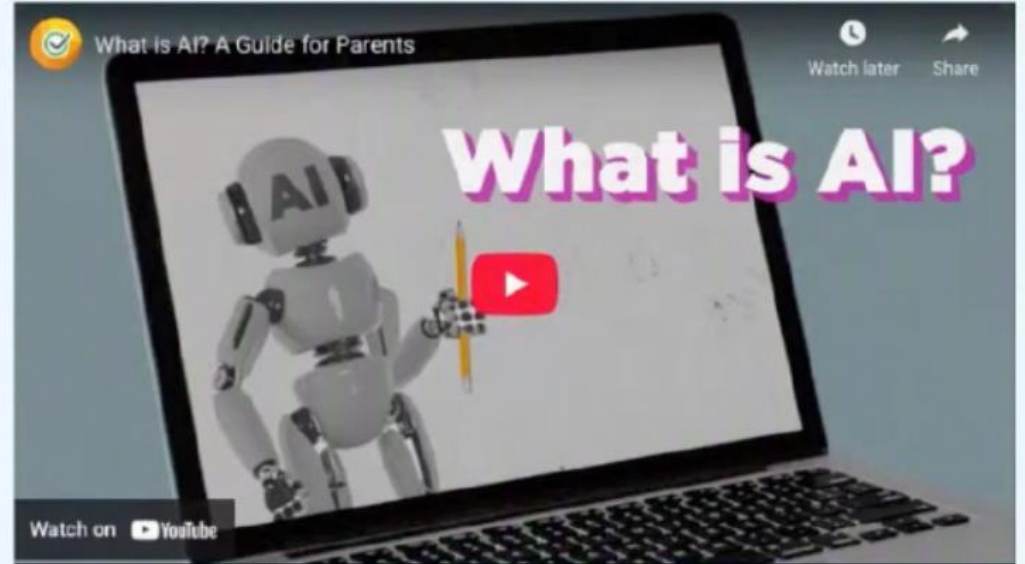


Generative AI

Creates new content, such as text, images, music, or videos, by learning from existing data and generating original outputs.



Gemini



What is AI?





70%

of teens have used at least one type of gen AI tool, and over half are using gen AI for homework help



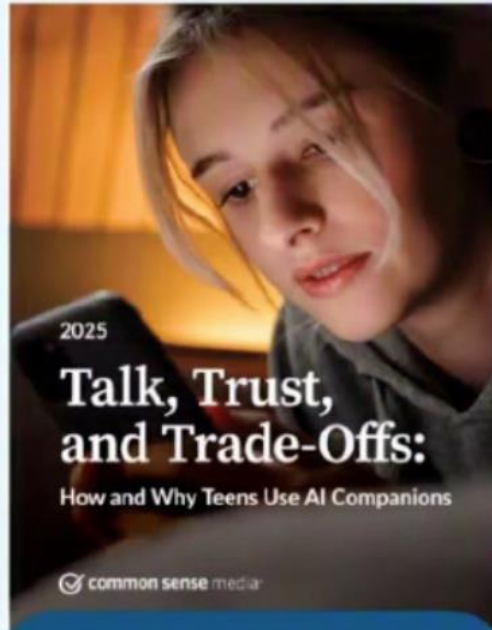
23%

of teachers have received AI training



64%

of teens don't trust major tech companies to prioritize their mental health & well-being



33%
of teens use AI
companions for social
interaction and
relationships



39%
of 5- to 8-year-olds,
have used AI for
school learning



80%
of parents are
concerned about
cybersecurity risks
with AI toy
companions

Essential skills



CRITICAL
THINKING



HUMAN
CONNECTION



CURIOSITY



CREATIVITY

Essential skills in practice



Who created this? Why did they create it? How can I tell if this is true?



What are the qualities of a good friend? What qualities are AI chatbots missing?



What am I trying to learn? What do I already know? Is this helping me think more deeply?



How do your ideas, emotions, and intentions inspire you?

Understanding AI's role in learning

✓ AI CAN help learning by:

- Explaining tough concepts more simply
- Generating examples or practice questions
- Offering writing suggestions
- Creating flashcards or study guides
- Providing alternative explanations to compare

✗ AI CANNOT replace:

- Human reasoning
- Critical and creative thinking
- Working through challenges
- Independent problem-solving
- Original ideas
- Developing a personal voice through writing

We help teachers and students thrive in a digital world



Digital Literacy & Well-Being Curriculum

Prepare your students for the opportunities and challenges of today's digital world with over 140 brand new lessons on the topics that matter most.

See the lessons!

Common Sense Media

www.commonsensemedia.org

Join FREE as an educator

GREAT resources for Educators and Parents

Helpful for PTA events or Back To School night



education

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EDUCATOR



Self-Paced Courses

Level up your digital skills with our free online trainings

Courses

Two Truths & AI is an interactive digital literacy game for grades K–12 that teaches students to identify AI-generated content and develop critical media literacy skills. Through an engaging, 60-second challenge, students try to distinguish between real and AI-generated movie posters. It's a fun way for students to test their AI detective skills, while also building their critical thinking muscles.

Play the game!

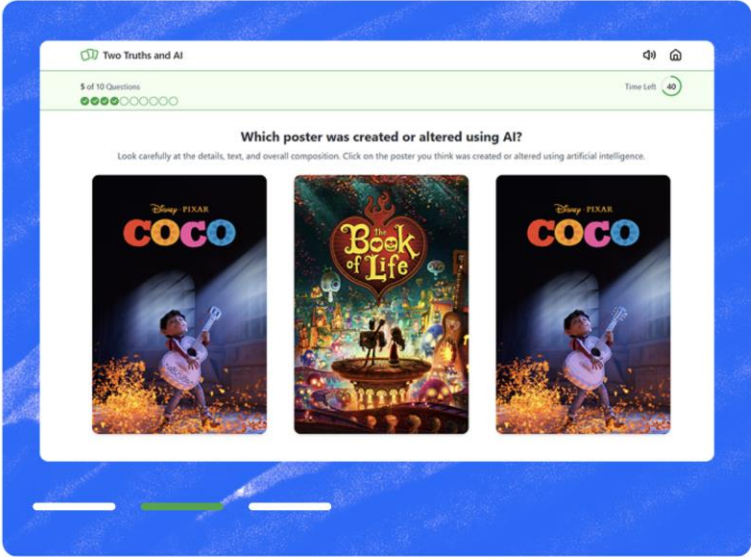
Games

Self-paced course

AI Basics for K-12 Teachers

This is a foundational course designed to introduce you to artificial intelligence and the ethical considerations you should keep in mind when integrating this technology into your teaching. Educators who complete this course will earn a certificate of completion.

Enroll now



Videos and Tips for Families

Videos on AI

Videos



5 Tips for Talking to Your Kids About Generative AI



What Is ChatGPT?

WE RATE
The AI industry moves fast.
Our ratings help families keep up.

Trending	Newest

Ratings



Lessons



Digital Literacy & Well-Being Curriculum

Free K–8 lessons to prepare students for life, online and off

Common Sense Education's Digital Literacy & Well-Being curriculum gives teachers a **free, research-backed framework for building students' digital literacy skills and helping them thrive** — online and off. From AI literacy and social media to cyberbullying, screen time, and digital footprint, the curriculum covers the digital challenges students face every day as well as the offline skills they need to manage them.

The curriculum is designed for grades K–8, with more than 140 updated lessons that reflect what students are actually encountering today. Whether you're introducing digital literacy and well-being concepts for the first time or updating what you've been teaching for years, this is a good place to start.

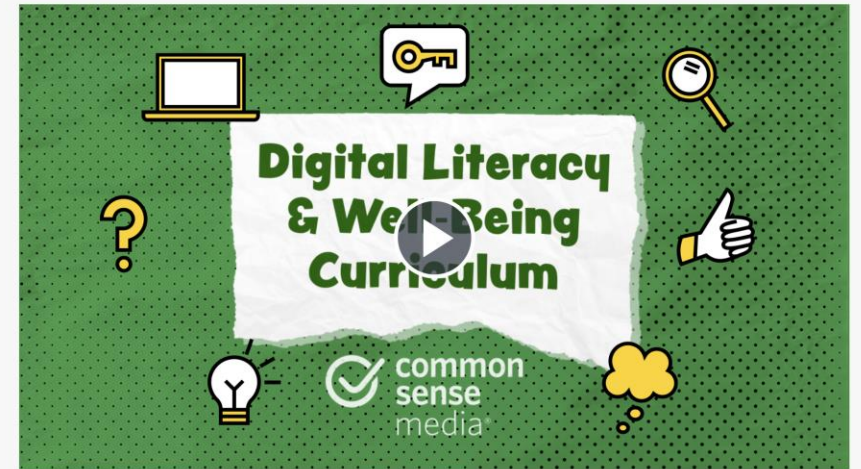
Implementation Guides

AI Toolkit for School Districts

A district-focused roadmap for thoughtful AI planning



Professional Development



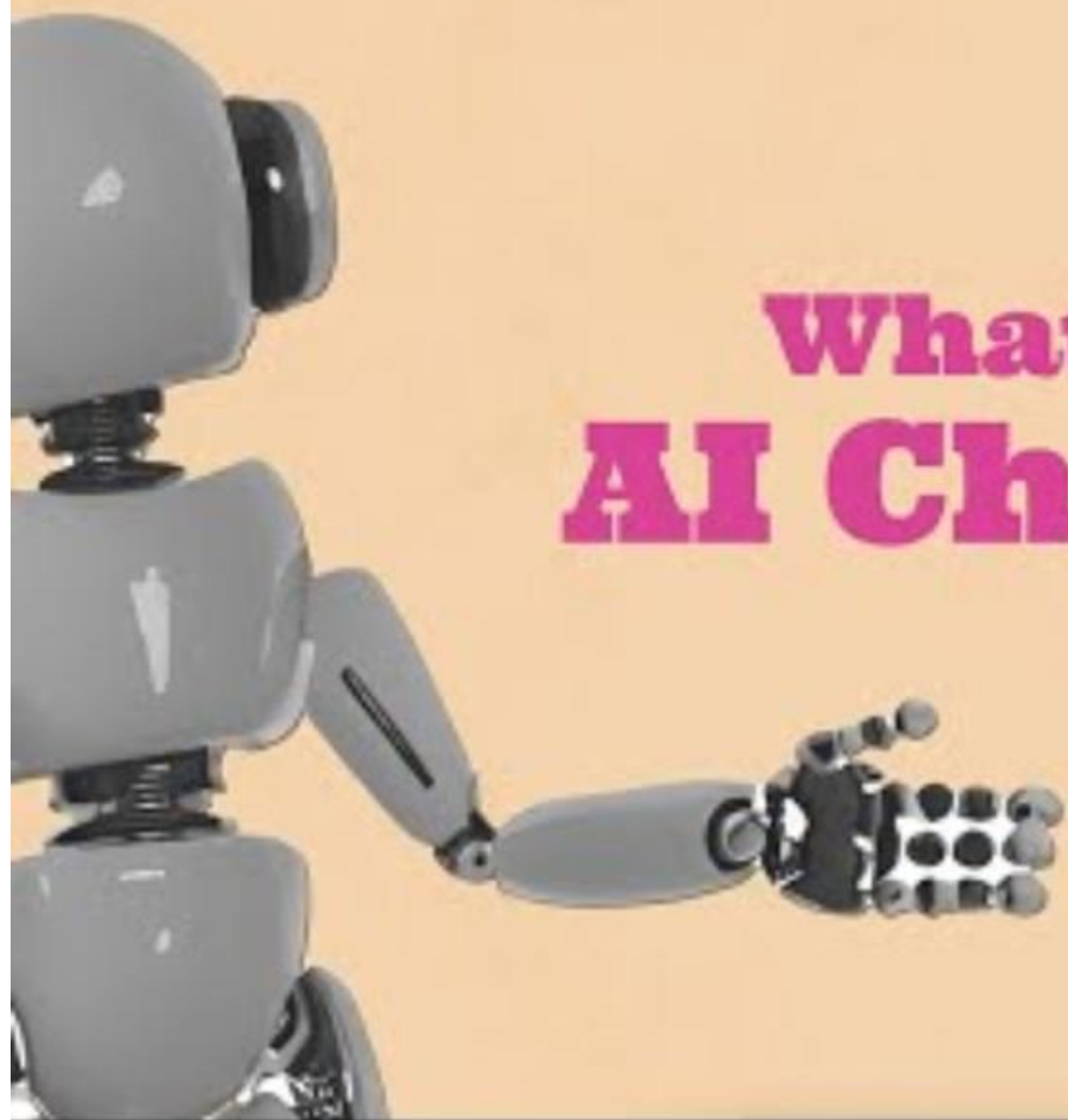
Professional Development

Get confident with our new curriculum before you start. Our free, self-paced course walks you through everything you need to know. Whether you're a teacher implementing the curriculum in your classroom, or an administrator planning for school- or district-wide implementation, this course is a valuable first step.

[Start the Course](#)



What is an AI Chatbot?



AI chatbot use by age

	Recommendation	Why
Under 5	No AI chatbots	Kids can't tell AI from real people and need hands-on learning
Ages 6-12	Supervised use only	Kids need parents nearby to guide them and catch inappropriate content
Ages 13+	Independent use possible with limits	Teens can use AI for homework and creativity, but not for emotional support
All ages under 18	No AI for companionship, emotional support, or mental health advice	AI lacks training to provide safe guidance and can miss warning signs

Considerations for kids' AI use

Opportunities

- Learning supports
- Accessibility aids
- Creativity tools
- Improve efficiency

Risks

- Misinformation
- Privacy concerns
- Bias
- Harmful behavior
- Plagiarism and cheating

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Our Work and Impact



Enter keywords or select a browse option



Kim Marie K.

Digital Literacy and Citizenship

AI in Schools

Resources

Professional Development

For Families

Get Our Newsletter

Navigating AI in Schools

Understanding AI is an essential digital literacy skill. We have free resources to help.

Schools everywhere are grappling with AI. Students are using it, teachers are learning about it, and districts are beginning to create their own policies for it. Dive into our free resources to find practical ways to address AI in your classroom (or school).



THANK YOU

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