

Family as Third Space for AI Literacy





RPF Seminar March 2022

Growing up with AI



What we know



Family learning & Technology (Barron et al. 2009)



Family Media Join-Engagement (Stevens & Takeuchi 2011)



Family AI Literacy (Druga et al. 2020 Long et al. 2020)



Initial Perceptions Matter



Children perceived agents as friendly and truthful



Stefania Druga, Randi Williams, Cynthia Breazeal. "" Hey Google is it OK if I eat you?" Initial Explorations in Child-Agent Interaction Proceedings of the 2017 Conference on Interaction Design and Children 2017

How smart are the smart toys?



Stefania Druga, Randi Williams, Cynthia Breazeal. ""How smart are the smart toys ?"- Children's and parents' attributions of intelligence to computational objects." IDC. 2018

• "I would choose the mouse as smarter because the mouse is an animal, the robot is programmed by humans"- Olivia, 9 years old.

• "Either the robot is being driven by a person with a remote control, or by software, and either way it's not smart because it's not alive."- Lucas's mom.

•" The robot was more fluent. It's similar to the mouse, but since the robot was programmed by humans it could go through the maze more easily."-Mason, 8 years old.



Older children attribute to AI more similarly to their parents



Stefania Druga, Randi Williams, Cynthia Breazeal. ""How smart are the smart toys ?"- Children's and parents' attributions of intelligence to computational objects." IDC. 2018

Study participants: 30 pairs of children(4-10 years old) parents. Children mirrored parent's choices and arguments for more intelligent agent.

Intelligent toys are influencing children moral decisions



Randi Williams, Christian Vazquez, Stefania Druga, Pattie Maes, Cynthia Breazeal. "My Doll Says It's OK: Voice-Enabled Toy Influences Children's Moral Decisions." IDC. 2018

Programming with AI



Shady Hill Private School



EPH Public Center



ESCS Public school



Empower Private Center

Is it smarter than you? (pre/post)



How do children's perceptions of machine intelligence change when training and coding smart programs? Druga, Stefania, and Ko, Amy J. Interaction Design for Children ACM 2021

AI literacy for families





Figure 10: Examples of ways in which children were trying to trick the AI

The 4As: Ask, Adapt, Author, Analyze AI Literacy Framework for Families Stefania, Druga, Jason, Yip, Michael, Preston, and Devin, MIT Press 2020



Al literacy for families



The 4As: Ask, Adapt, Author, Analyze Al Literacy Framework for Families Stefania, Druga, Jason, Yip, Michael, Preston, and Devin, MIT Press 2020





RQ1: How do children and parents learn about AI together?

What we want to learn



RQ2: How can we design learning supports for family AI literacies?

Study design





15 families 34 participants 11 languages 10 USA states



5 Weeks In-Home 11 activities 5 sessions/family

Theory of Multiple Literacies

- **1. Situated Practice**
- 2. Over Instruction
- 3. Critical Framing
- 4. Transformed Practice (New London Group 1996)

Initial perceptions of AI

"I would like an app where you can add personal information. It'd be nice if they [AI devices] don't know unless you give them that information. Otherwise, it seems creepy" — R., mom F11.

> "Siri has a lot trouble recognizing my voice, which annoys me." — J., mom F9, who speaks Spanish as a first language



Session 1 - Image Classification

Learn more about how computers classify images



Coral Learning Activity

Image classification for families







Classify Coral Images



Anchor Game

Pick Segments of Coral Images

Findings Image Classification



"A computer would make mistakes because everything makes mistakes. Because computers, they are just people programming something new." — L., daughter F8.





Session 2 - Machine Learning

Teach a machine to learn from your examples



Machine Learning Game



Mobile Apps for Object Detection

Guess Machine Object Predictions

Findings Machine Learning



"We should probably aim it at the ceiling, cause we have a bunch of pillows [in the background]." — A., son F11, suggesting how to fix the background being noisy when training the AI.



Session 3 - Voice Assistants

Learn how to play with & better understand voice assistants



Voice Assistants Family Game



Findings Voice Assistants

Questions	Family members' answers	AI's answers
Do I have any pets?	Yes you do.	I couldn't say.
How's the weather today?	It is sunny and warm; there are some clouds.	It is cloudy and 70 degrees 69 deg at night
Can you recite the first 10 digits of pi?	The answer is 3.1457629	Okay the first 1 digits of pi here (showing websites
Which came first : the chicken or the egg?	That's a trick question If I knew the answer to this question, I would be the philosopher	It appears that h civilizations awf preoccupied by question
Come up with your own questions!		
	Because they run	National geograph

around using their Why does a t-rex (showing articles related legs and they don't have tiny arms? to t-rex). need big arms...

rees

is...

uman ully this

hic...

"If Alexa was smart enough, she could have seen (...) we don't order any of the pet products, which probably means that we don't have pets." — R., son F3 talking to his mom.







Session 4 - Design & Analyze AI

Design your own Al device











Findings Design & Analyze AI



"What if it was like a face that looked more like a robot face? Would that still be creepy? [C. nods]" — N., mom F12, suggesting potential modifications to their AI design.



learn about AI together?







Cheerleader	Emotio
Madiatar	Media
Mediator	Direct
Mentor	Guide
	Encou
Circle 1	Learn
Student	Chang
Teacher	Explai
	Provid
Observer	Let the
	Step in

Parents Roles

onally support the child during an activity or display excitement.

te between siblings and help them work together. a child's attention or explain task instructions.

the child to a more nuanced understanding. rages child to explain and clarify their reasoning.

a new concept or a new practice from the child. ge perspective towards AI functionalities. In a new concept or a new practice to the child. le guidance to use AI functionalities.

e child do the activity alone. n when help is needed or asked for.





Joint Roles

Tinkerer	Encourage the child to h
	Model this tinkering bel
Collaborator	Work with the child as a



break, fix, and test the AI. havior.

a friend, and be actively engaged in the activity.

RQ 2: How can we design learning supports for family AI literacies?



All study materials are available at aiplayground.me

Model or" Why?	Design & Analyze AI	
choring Game		
select the most re part of each coral image, hask (anchor) on the image	Playbook For Families	îî ûî
non-representative part.	at Forming Stoute - Autority A	



RQ 2: How can we design learning supports for family AI literacies?







AI Literacy practices and skills led some families to consider making meaningful use of AI devices they already have in their homes and re-design their interactions with them. These findings suggest that family has the potential to act as a third space for AI learning!





6 Ingredients For Al Literacy



01 Mutual Engagement

Families are equally participating and engaging in the activity. Engage by asking your voice assistant (on your phone or in the house) a series of questions, like "assistant, what should we make for dinner tonight? Who made you? How do you learn?". Try to build off of the assistant's responses and each other's questions.





02 Co-Creation

Kids and parents use AI Technologies to create things together that are meaningful for their families. Go to TeachableMachine.com and teach the computer to recognize you and your family members. Once you are done, think of different ways to trick the computer together and improve the way you teach it.



03 Boundary Crossing

Kids and parents share their past experiences and personal stories during the activity with AI. As a family share what past technologies voice assistants remind you of, and imagine what the future voice assistant may look like.



05 Intention to Develop

Families develop awareness of their own or their partners' needs and/or interests. Then, they help themselves or their partners to grow through the activity. Make a diary of your daily use of a specific AI technology. Write down interesting things, and see how it changes over time.



04 Collaborative Inquiry

Families collaborate to understand together how AI works. Try to understand how a voice assistant may work. Take turns and draw or discuss what you think is inside the device. As you are brainstorming, you may ask questions to the assistant to help you better understand how it works.



06 Focus on Content, Not Control

Families focus on the content and genuine interactions with Al, while minimizing the considerations for technical features and/or design elements. Try and compare the differences between your experience interacting with a complicated device and using something simple. How does it change the experience?

Thank you to all the families who participated in this study!

Paper: *Family as a Third Space for AI Literacies: How do children and parents learn about AI together?* Druga, Stefania, Christoph, Fee, and Ko, Amy J. CHI '22: ACM Conference on Computer-Human Interaction 2022

Study materials available at <u>aiplayground.me</u>

Illustrations by Sarah Strickler & https://undraw.co/.

