

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy in Elementary School

What families need to know about AI literacy in PreK-5



Instructional Innovation
& Digital Learning
Office of Academics



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What is AI Literacy?

AI recognizes patterns, learns from examples, and helps people solve problems. AI literacy is learning **how** AI works.



Why teach it?

Students learn to think critically, solve problems, and use technology safely.



Safety matters

Lessons include privacy, respectful communication, and checking information.

AI Literacy Journey: PreK-5

Students move from simple exploration to responsible use and community impact.

What will my child actually do? Example lessons by grade

Grade	Big Idea	Example Lesson
PreK	Technology helps people.	Students sort picture cards into "made by people" and "found in nature" to learn that technology is something people create to solve problems.
K	Machines use sensors like we use our senses.	Students compare eyes and ears to a camera and microphone, then draw a robot and explain what its sensors help it do.
1	AI recognizes patterns.	Students sort classroom objects by color, shape, or size and discuss how a computer could organize items using similar patterns.
2	AI learns from data.	Students collect class data about favorite fruits and use the information to predict which fruit is most popular.
3	AI uses patterns to make predictions.	Students examine reading preferences and predict which book a classmate might enjoy based on similar interests.
4	AI can help, but it is not perfect.	Students review computer-generated answers and identify mistakes to learn why people should verify information.
5	AI impacts people and communities.	Students discuss how AI can help solve community challenges, such as reducing waste or conserving energy, while considering privacy and fairness.



Teacher-guided

AI lessons are hands-on, age appropriate, and led by educators.



Family support

Ask: How did the computer know that? Could it be wrong? What information was used?

Goal: Curious learners | Critical thinkers | Responsible digital citizens | Future-ready problem solvers

Sources: Florida Department of Education Computer Science Standards and Instructional Support; Florida State Academic Standards: Computer Science (2024); Day of AI Foundations Curriculum; CPALMS Foundations of Computer Science.



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