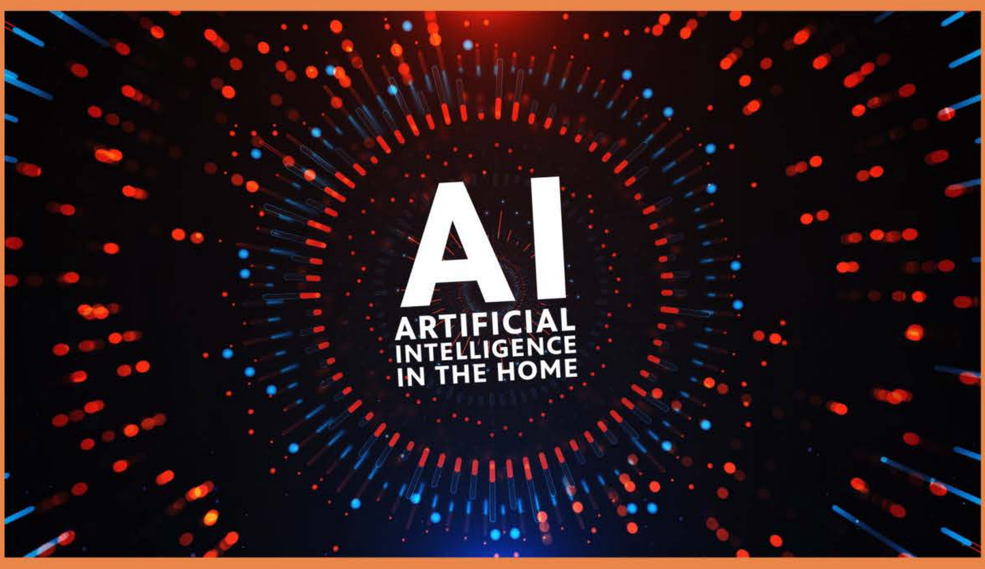
FAMILIES, STUDENTS, AND THE POWER OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Artificial Intelligence can be a helpful tool at home, making study time more engaging, and personalized for children. It can give feedback, suggest new ways to learn, and adapt to unique interests, helping students build problem solving and critical thinking skills.

With families setting clear boundaries, staying involved, and talking about technology choices, AI can support learning, creativity, and preparation for the future.

It is important for families to remember that the information provided is to help children learn by building skills to become better citizens, computational thinkers, communicators, collaborators, innovators, empowered learners, and designers.

Children: Ages 10-14

By building on the skills students learn at school, like responsible **digital citizenship**, source comparison and bias awareness, basic programming and **algorithmic thinking**, and collaborative tools, they'll be ready to navigate new AI tools responsibly and make informed choices as these technologies become increasingly common in school and beyond.

Make a "Family AI Plan"

Create simple rules together for when, why, and how your child can use AI.
Be clear about using AI only with an adult, personal information safety, and device time limits.

Talk about AI limitations by showing examples where AI makes mistakes and double-checking answers with another source.

Talk about AI by having the student explain about how it uses data and how it is different than human generated content.

Explore AI as both a thought partner and an assistant for sparking ideas. Encourage students to explore how it might support them in everyday life.

Practice AI Use

Crafting detailed prompts:

Prompt AI to generate a household chore list based on your general family schedule, type of home, and household members. After reviewing and talking as a family, create a final household chore list for weekly tasks.

Break down tasks:

Gather materials like project directions, student-created project outlines, and student researched sources and ask AI to be a thought partner during project revision.

Screen free-Create an algorithmic activity:

Create a maze on the floor with household items. Have your child give step by step instructions for navigating the maze while you follow those steps, literally to help practice algorithmic thinking through sequencing, testing, and problem-solving together.

Families can support ethical AI use by setting simple family rules about when and how AI tools should be used. It also helps to clearly discuss how AI works and why it can sometimes give incorrect information. Families can **model healthy digital habits by keeping screen time balanced**, reviewing AI supported schoolwork together, and asking students to explain how they used an AI tool. These steps help build responsibility, confidence, and strong digital wellness skills.