

Machine Learning For Kids :: Teachers' notes

Worksheet	What does Twitter think?
Activity	Use machine learning in Scratch to analyze sentiment of discussion in social media
Objective	Teach a computer to recognise the sentiment of public discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How computers can be trained to recognise the sentiment behind writing. How sentiment analysis is used to measure public opinion
Difficulty level	Intermediate
Time estimate	1 hour
Summary	Students will choose a topic and search for tweets about that. They'll copy examples and use these to train a machine learning model to classify the sentiment of tweets. They will use this in Scratch to analyze live discussions on Twitter and represent this in a live graph.
Topics	sentiment analysis, supervised learning

Setup

Each student will need:

Print-outs	Project worksheet (download from https://machinelearningforkids.co.uk/worksheets) Blocks in Scratch scripts are colour-coded, so printing in colour will make it easier for students.
Access	Username and password for machinelearningforkids.co.uk
Access	Access to twitter.com (no username needed)

Class account will need:

API keys	Watson Assistant 1 workspace per student One "Lite" API key is free but can only be used to create 5 workspaces One "Standard" API key can be used to create 20 workspaces more detail at: https://github.com/IBM/taxinomitix-docs/raw/master/docs/pdf/machinelearningforkids-apikeys.pdf
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Help

Potential issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity involves reading unfiltered messages from Twitter. As such, it is not appropriate for younger students, as there is a chance that they will come across offensive language or content. Not all topics will lead to an effective project. Try to help the students find a topic that people are more likely to express an opinion about. If they choose a very common word (e.g. "Starbucks") they may find that the vast majority of tweets mention it as a location without expressing an opinion. "https://machinelearningforkids.co.uk" is a long URL to type for some children. You may find it easier to set up a bookmark that they can click on instead. Scratch 3 will be new to many students, however the worksheet should have enough screenshots to mitigate this. <p>General troubleshooting and help at https://machinelearningforkids.co.uk/help</p>
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