Getting Started with AI: Resources for Community Learning

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming part of everyday life — from smartphones to healthcare. This 1-page guide offers accessible, beginner-friendly resources for anyone in the community who wants to learn more about AI, its uses, and how it impacts society.

# 🌐 Beginner-Friendly Online Courses

* Elements of AI – https://www.elementsofai.com/  
  Free global course designed for non-experts by the University of Helsinki and Reaktor.
* Google AI for Anyone – https://ai.google/education/  
  Short videos and easy explanations about AI's real-world uses.
* IBM SkillsBuild – AI Fundamentals – https://skillsbuild.org/  
  Free courses on AI basics, ethics, and job-ready skills.
* Khan Academy – Intro to Machine Learning – https://www.khanacademy.org/computing/computer-science/ai  
  Visual and beginner-friendly lessons on AI and ML.

# 📚 Books & Guides

* You Look Like a Thing and I Love You by Janelle Shane  
  A humorous and accessible intro to AI with real examples.
* Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Thinking Humans by Melanie Mitchell  
  A thoughtful look at AI’s possibilities and limitations.

# 🎧 Podcasts & Videos

* AI Alignment Podcast – https://futureoflife.org/ai-alignment-podcast/  
  Explores ethics and long-term impacts of AI.
* CrashCourse AI Series – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ePf9rue1Ao  
  Fun animated YouTube series covering key AI topics.

# 🛠 Hands-On Tools (No Coding Needed)

* Teachable Machine – https://teachablemachine.withgoogle.com/  
  Train basic machine learning models using images or sound.
* ChatGPT – https://chat.openai.com/  
  Use to explore how AI interacts through conversation.
* MIT Scratch + AI – https://scratch.mit.edu/  
  Great for kids—create simple AI projects using blocks.

# 🧭 Key Topics to Learn About

* What is AI (vs. automation)?
* Everyday uses of AI (phones, social media, services)
* Privacy and AI
* AI’s impact on jobs and education
* Bias and fairness in AI systems
* Misinformation and deepfakes

Prepared by Dr. John Rubena Wani