

# K-12 AI Education in 2020

EAAI 2020



# Panelists



Dave Touretzky  
Carnegie Mellon  
AI for K-12 Working Group  
Chair

Christina Gardner-McCune  
University of Florida  
AI For K-12 Working Group  
Co-Chair

Cynthia Breazeal  
MIT

Rooz Aliabadi  
ReadyAI

Emily Reid  
AI4ALL



# Initiative Update

David S. Touretzky & Christina Gardner-McCune



Supported by NSF DRL-1846073.



# K-12 AI Education (Circa May 2018)

- CS K-12 Education is exploding in the US and abroad.
- We are not as far along when it comes to AI, but many countries are trying China, UK, Thailand, Korea, and EU Countries
- The 2017 CSTA Computing Standards contain just two sentences about AI.
  - Both are for the 11-12 grade band. Nothing for younger students.

3B-AP-08	11-12	Describe how artificial intelligence drives many software and physical systems.	>	Algorithms & Programming	Algorithms	Communicating
3B-AP-09	11-12	Implement an artificial intelligence algorithm to play a game against a human opponent or solve a problem.	>	Algorithms & Programming	Algorithms	Creating

# The AI4K12 Initiative, a joint project of:

**AAAI** (Association for the Advancement  
of Artificial Intelligence)



**CSTA** (Computer Science  
Teachers Association)



With funding from National Science  
Foundation ITEST Program  
(DRL-1846073)

**Carnegie Mellon University**  
School of Computer Science



# Initiative Mission

- Develop national guidelines for teaching AI in K-12
  - Modeled after the CSTA standards for computing education.
  - Four grade bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12
  - What should students know?
  - What should students be able to do?
- Develop a curated AI resource directory for K-12 teachers
- Foster a K-12 AI Education Research and Practice Community & Resource Developers



# Steering Committee



Dave Touretzky  
Carnegie Mellon  
AI for K-12 Working Group  
Chair



Christina Gardner-McCune  
University of Florida  
AI For K-12 Working  
Group Co-Chair



Fred Martin  
UMass Lowell  
CSTA Chair of Board of  
Directors



Deborah Seehorn  
Co-Chair of CSTA  
Standards Committee



# K-12 Teacher Working Group Members



## Grades K-2

**Vicky Sedgwick (Lead)**  
Susan Amsler-Akacem  
Dr. April DeGennaro  
Melissa Unger (New)

## Grades 3-5

**Kelly Powers (Lead)**  
Dr. Marlo Barnett  
Dr. Phillip Eaglin  
Alexis Cobo (New)

## Grades 6-8

**Sheena Vaidyanathan (Lead)**  
Padmaja Bandaru  
Josh Caldwell  
Charlotte Dungan  
Rachael Smith (New)

## Grades 9-12

**Jared Amalong (Lead)**  
Dr. Smadar Bergman  
Kate Lockwood  
John Chapin (New)

*Year 1 Alumni:* Brian Stamford, Minsoo Park, Juan Palomares, Vincent Gregorio, Dianne O'Grady-Cunniff



# Academia/Industry Working Group Members



Hal Abelson  
MIT



Cynthia Breazeal  
MIT



Emily Reid  
AI4ALL



Matthijs Spaan  
TU Delft  
AAAI



# Advisory Board

**Miles Berry**, Roehampton University, UK

**Amy Eguchi**, UC San Diego, CA

**Laura Schmidt**, Milwaukee School of Engineering University, WI

**Maitreyee Joshi**, Microsoft, Seattle, WA

**Irene Lee**, MIT, Cambridge, MA

**Dahua Lin**, Chinese University of Hong Kong, China

**Hari Raghavan**, IBM, New York, NY

**Joseph South**, ISTE, Portland, OR

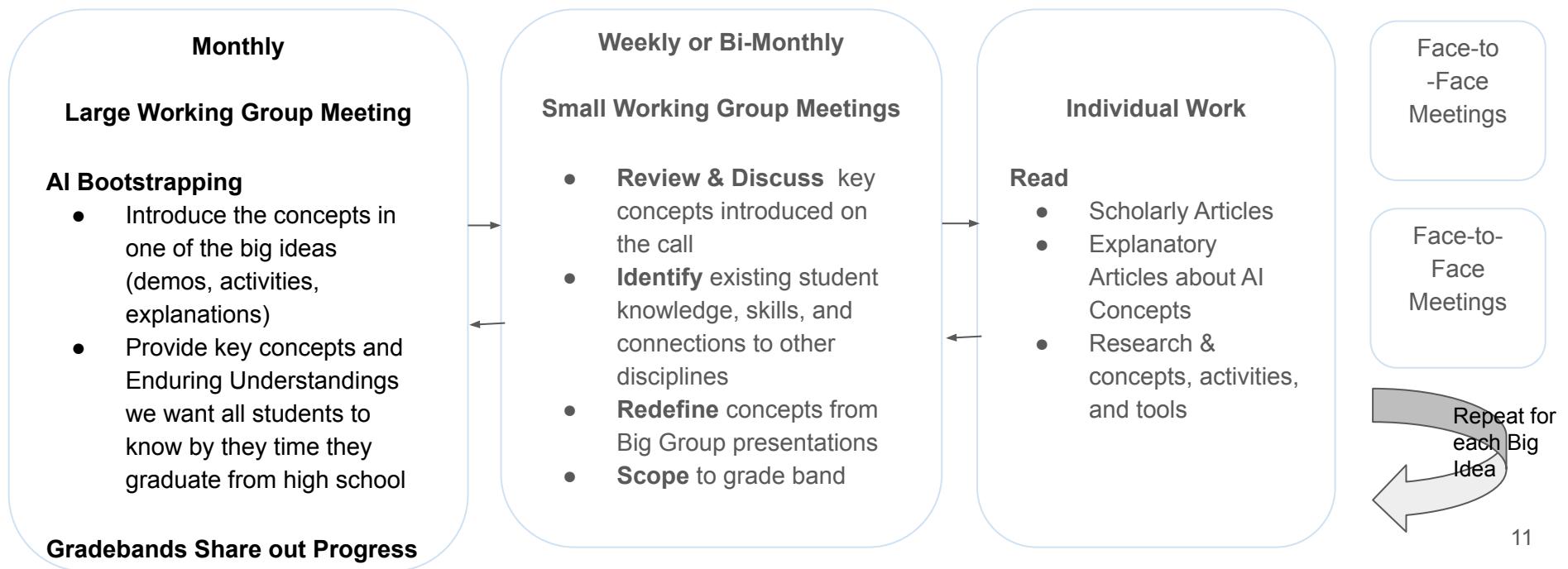
**Tom Vander Ark**, Getting Smart, Federal Way, WA

**Joyce D. Williams**, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, VA

**Wells Santo**, Oakland, CA

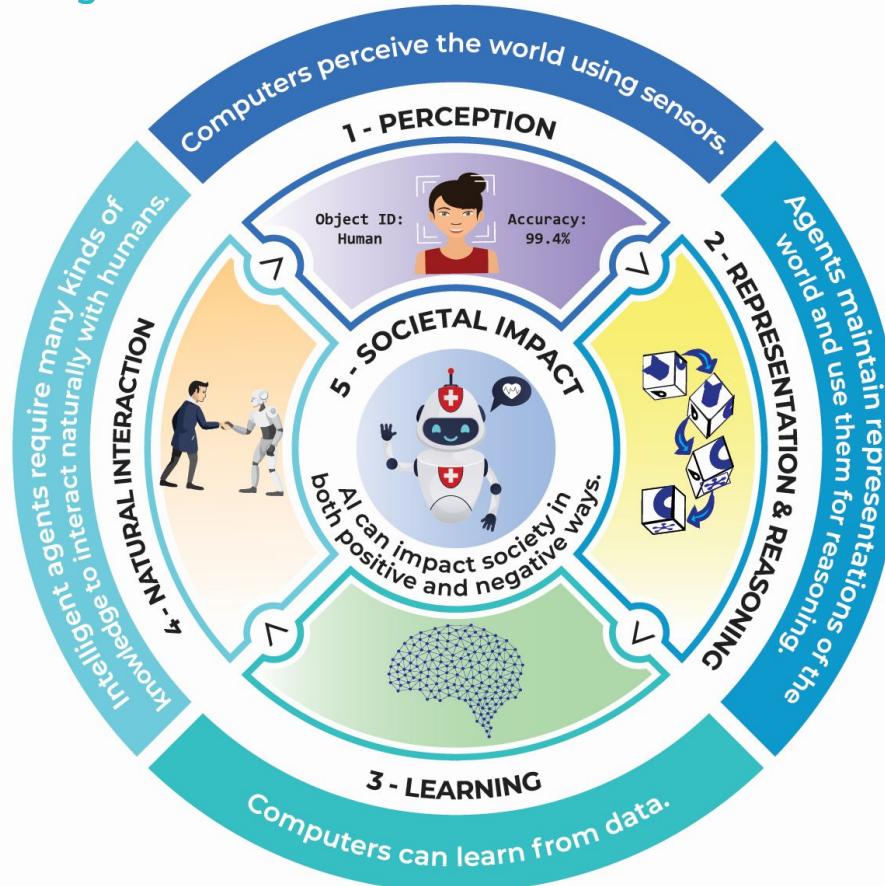
# Structure of Working Group & Responsibilities

**Goal:** Increase familiarity with AI concepts and leverage knowledge of students capabilities in CS and other disciplines and interests to scope expectations for student learning about AI for their grade band





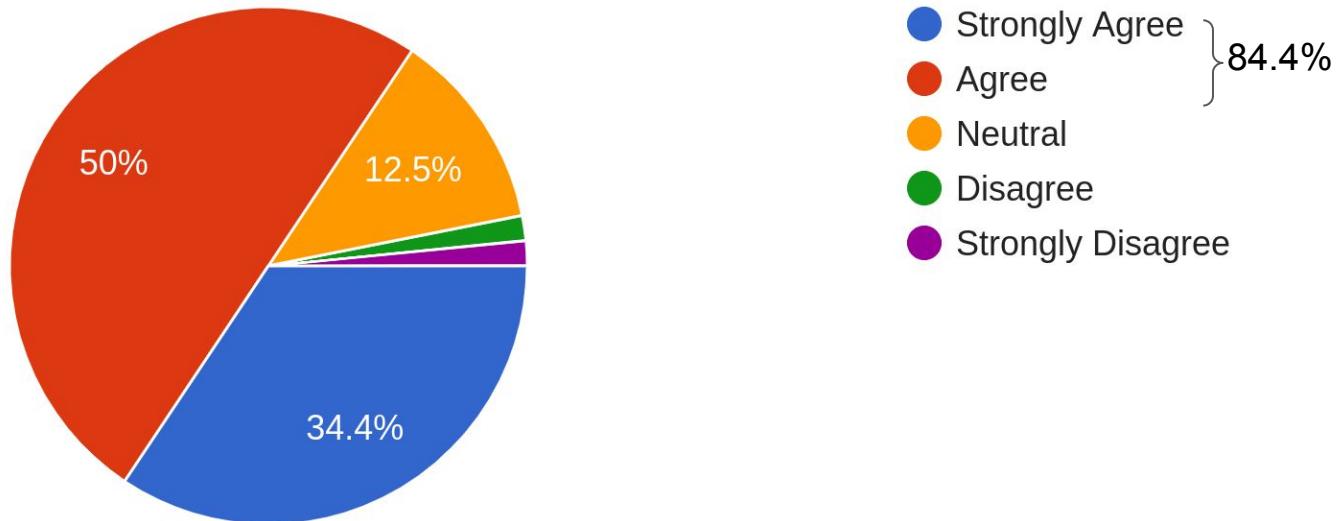
# Five Big Ideas in AI



# Results of AAAI Members Survey

The "5 Big Ideas in AI" capture the essence of AI.

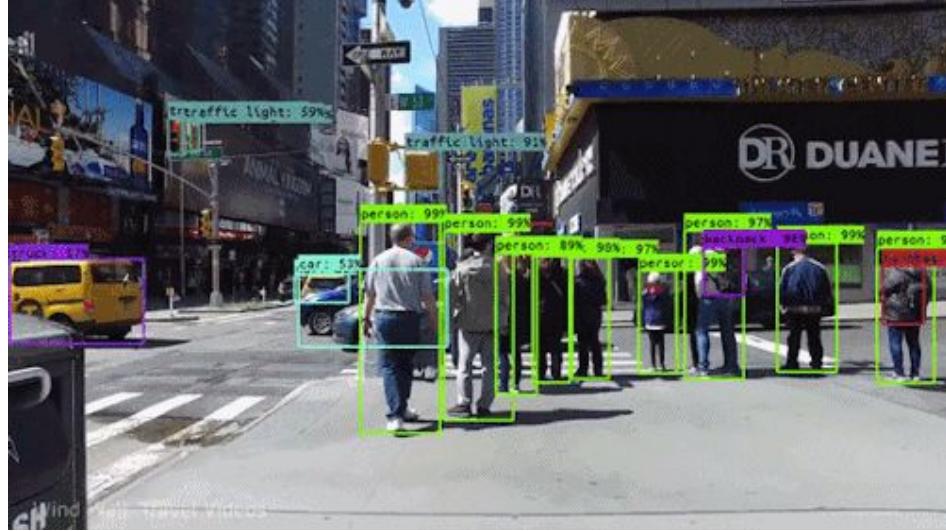
64 responses



# Big Idea #1: Perception

*Computers perceive the world using sensors.*  
Perception is the extraction of *meaning* from sensory signals.

- Human senses vs. computer sensors
- Types of perception: vision, speech recognition etc.
- How perception works: algorithms



## Example Guidelines

- Identify sensors on computers, robots, and intelligent appliances.
- Explain how sensor limitations affect computer perception.
- Explain that perception systems may draw on multiple algorithms as well as multiple sensors.
- Build an application using multiple sensors and types of perception (possibly with Scratch plugins, or Calypso).

# Big Idea #2: Representation and Reasoning

*Agents maintain representations of the world,  
and use them for reasoning.*

- Types of representations
- Families of algorithms and the work they do
- Representation supports reasoning: algorithms operate on representations



## Example Guidelines

- Create/design a representation of an (animal) classification system using a tree structure.
- Draw a search tree for tic-tac-toe
- Describe how AI representations support reasoning to answer questions
- Describe the differences between types of search algorithms

# Big Idea #3: Learning

*Computers can learn from data.*

- Characteristics of learning
- Fundamentals of neural networks
- Data sets



## Example Guidelines

- Modify an interactive machine learning project by training its model..
- Describe how algorithms and machine learning can exhibit biases.
- Identify bias in a training data set and extend the training set to address the bias
- Train a neural net (1-3 layers) using *TensorFlow Playground*
- Trace and experiment with a simple ML algorithm

# Big Idea #4: Natural Interaction

*Intelligent agents require many kinds of knowledge to interact naturally with humans.*

- Natural language understanding
- Common Sense Reasoning
- Affective computing & interaction (e.g. with robots, or speech agents)
- Consciousness and philosophy of mind

## Example Guidelines

- Recognize and label facial expressions into appropriate emotions (happiness, sadness, anger) and explain why they are labeled the way they are
- Experiment with software that recognizes emotions in facial expressions
- Construct a simple chatbot
- Describe some tasks where AI outperforms humans, and tasks where it does not
- Explain and give examples of how language can be ambiguous
- Reason about the nature of intelligence, and identify approaches to determining whether an agent is or is not intelligent.



# Big Idea #5: Societal Impact

*“Artificial Intelligence can impact society in both positive and negative ways.”*

- Ethics of AI making decisions about people
- AI & Culture
- Economic impact of AI

## Example Guidelines

- Critically explore the positive and negative impacts of an AI system
- Design and explain how an AI system can be used to address a social issue
- Describe ways that AI systems can be designed for inclusivity
- Understand tradeoffs in the design of AI systems and how decisions can have unintended consequences in the function of a system



# **Principles for Refinement & Scoping of Guidelines**

**Guidelines need to have real-world relevance to enable students to**

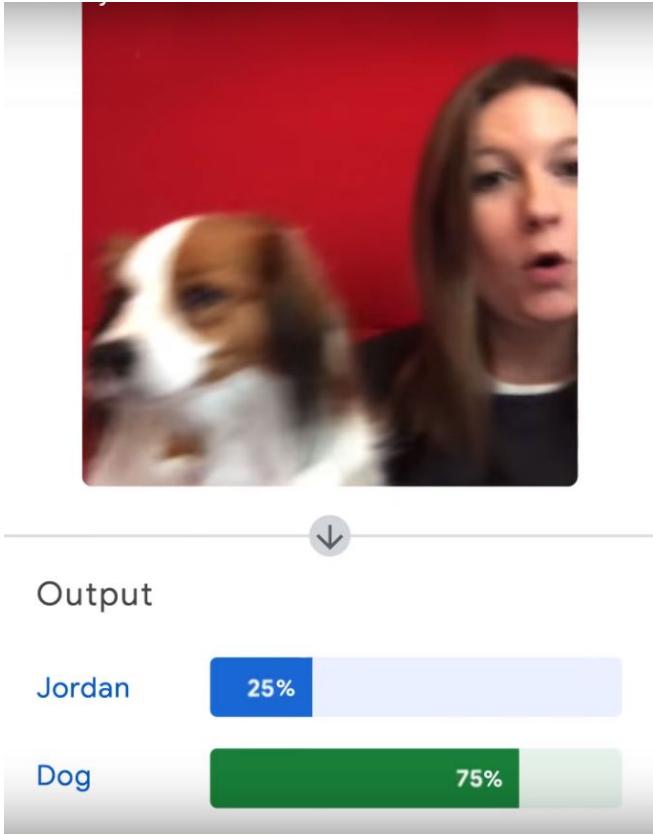
- explain how a self-driving car works and the types AI systems or subsystems involved in decision making
- explain the process by which ML models are developed, from data collection to types of training and sources of bias etc
- use, modify, and create AI systems using developmentally appropriate tools
- understand the implications of AI for real world issues

# Recent Developments in Tools for K-12 AI Education



Built with TensorFlow

- Version 2 (new)
- Teach a machine using your camera.
- Live, in the browser.
- No coding required.
- Export a trained model to JavaScript



<https://experiments.withgoogle.com/teachable-machine>



# APP INVENTOR

<https://appinventor.mit.edu/explore/ai-with-mit-app-inventor>



## Introduction to Machine Learning: Image Classification

**Difficulty:** beginner

**Resource Type:** curriculum unit

**Subject:** computer science

**Grade Level:**

- 6-8
- 9-12

Students will learn about the basics of machine learning and create their own apps that implement these concepts through image classification. The students will take photos with their mobile devices and the apps will identify objects within those photos. Each classification comes with a confidence level, a value of how... [More Details](#)

## Personal Image Classifier

**Difficulty:** beginner

**Resource Type:** curriculum unit

**Subject:** computer science

**Grade Level:**

- 6-8
- 9-12

This AI unit is broken into three parts. In part 1, students learn how to create and train their own image classification model to identify and classify images. In part 2, students use their model in an app using MIT App Inventor to see how their model performs. In part... [More Details](#)

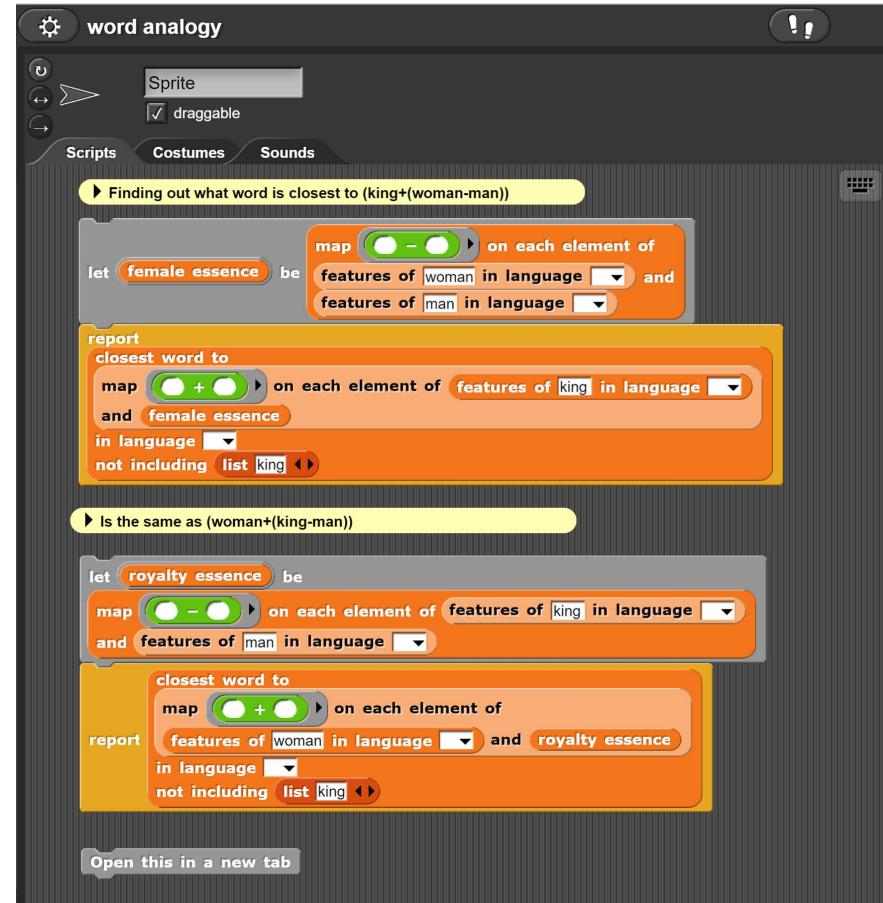
**Use a pre-trained image classifier**

**Train your own image classifier**

# eCraft2Learn - Ken Kahn

- Exploring word2Vec
- Snap! extension that supports 20,000 words in 15 languages
- Teacher Guide

<https://ecraft2learn.github.io/ai/AI-Teacher-Guide/chapter-5.html>

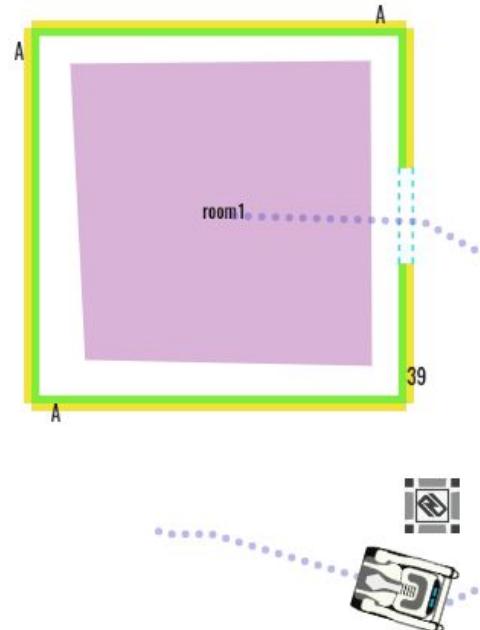


Source:

<https://ecraft2learn.github.io/ai/snap/snap-no-logging.html?project=word%20analogy&noRun&editMode>

# Calypso for Cozmo: New Path Planner

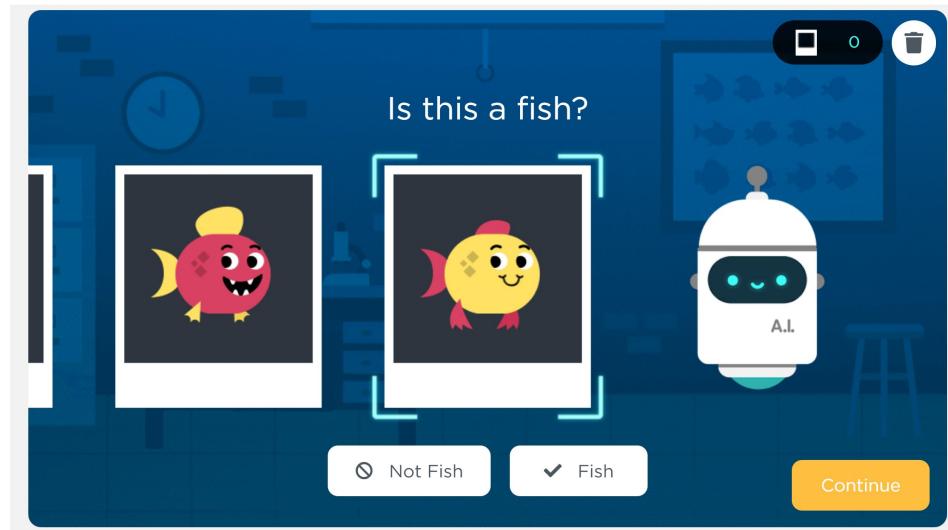
- Hybrid wavefront/RRT path planner
- It draws the planned path in the world map, or indicates if planning has failed (goal unreachable).
- The Cozmo robot is coming back!



# Hour of Code: AI for Oceans

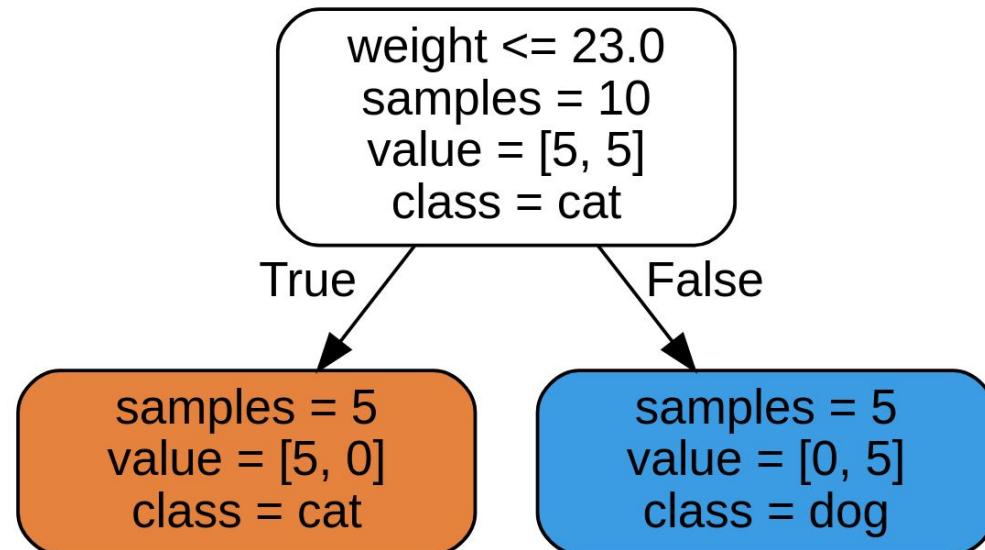
<https://code.org/oceans>

- Introduction to Machine Learning
- Train a classifier to distinguish categories of cartoon marine life



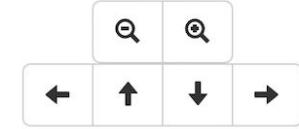
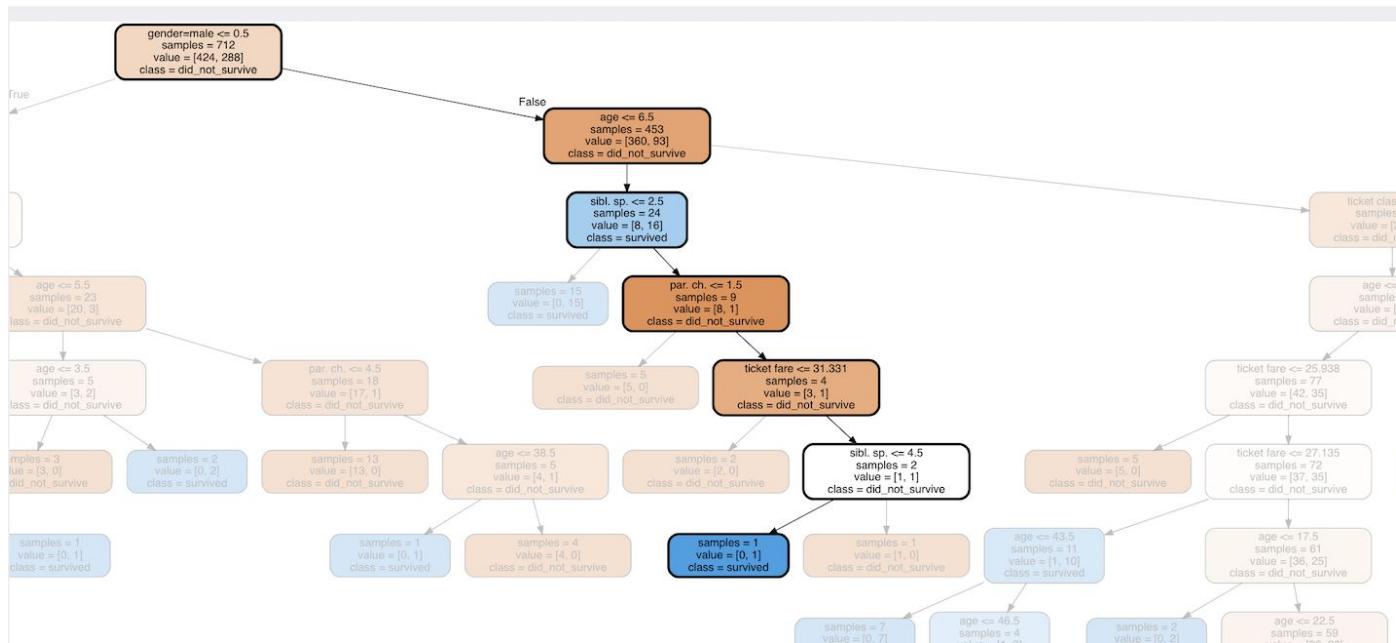
# Machine Learning for Kids

- Added a decision tree visualizer
- Can also show you how a particular input gets classified by the tree.



# Machine Learning for Kids

Trees can be very complex! This display shows the path that led to classification of the instance at right as class blue (“survivor”).



Try out your machine learning model to see how it uses the decision tree to make predictions

ticket class	1	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
gender	male	<input type="button" value="down"/>
age	6	
sibl. sp.	3	
par. ch.	2	
ticket fare	80	
embarked	Southampton	<input type="button" value="down"/>

Test

Reset

# Tools & Activities Can Facilitate

- **Experiments with AI agents** to investigate their behavior
- **Hand simulations of AI algorithms**
- **Building their own AI applications**
- **Exploring case studies of AI-related societal issues** from multiple perspectives

The goal is to promote students' understanding of:

- How AI works
- Limitations of AI
- Systems thinking (AI systems are built from smaller components)
- Sources of bias in AI
- Societal impacts of AI systems

# Types of AI Teaching Resources for K-12

**Black box demos**  
provide hands-on experience with AI applications but don't reveal what's going on under the hood.

**Glass box demos**  
expose the workings of an AI algorithm and invite the user to play with its parameters.

**AI programming frameworks**  
allow students to develop their own applications by extending a familiar programming language with new AI primitives

**Unplugged activities**  
guide students to explore AI by hand-simulating learning or reasoning algorithms.

**Videos**  
combining verbal explanations with visualizations of AI algorithms can be very effective

**Hardware**  
resources include vision-based mobile robots

**Formal curricula**

# K-12 AI Education Community Update

# K-12 AI Education Community Growth

- AI for K-12 Symposium (2018) & Teaching AI in K-12 (2019)  
AAAI Fall Symposia, Arlington, VA
- 560+ K-12 Teachers completed ISTE AI Teacher PD Course
- AI4K12 Interest Group List-serv - Over 250 people  
*moved to [ai4k12@lists.aaai.org](mailto:ai4k12@lists.aaai.org)*
- K12 AI Education workshop (AIED conference, Chicago, May 2019)
- ISTE - 16 AI Talks, Events, and Workshops
- CSTA - 3 AI Breakout Sessions; 2 AI Workshops
- Workshop on Education in Artificial Intelligence K-12 (EduAI)  
IJCAI, Macau, China, Aug. 11, 2019
- 7 NSF Funded K-12 AI Education Projects

# K-12 AI Curricula & Professional Development

- ISTE PD - Over 560+ Educators Completed the Course (Sept. 2019)
- ReadyAI: Free AI+ME tutorial for K-5
- 2019 WAICY Competition
- Exploring Computer Science (ECS) AI Curriculum Unit
- AI4ALL Open Learning Platform
- AI + Ethics (MIT) Curriculum & Standards
- Teaching AI book - Michelle Zimmerman

# Grow the Community

Develop  
Video, Web-based Demo,  
& Tool frameworks

- Your research
- Basic AI concepts
- How AI works through the lens of everyday technologies

Develop for all grade bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 & work with teachers & students

Start thinking of  
AI K-12 Demo ideas for  
EAAI 2021

AI outreach in your local community

Align your curricula, PD, activities  
to the Five Big Ideas in AI

Feedback on guidelines

# Join us in Sparking AI Curiosity

**Visit us:**

<http://AI4K12.org>

**Join the mailing list**

<https://aaai.org/Organization/mailing-lists.php>

