



Children's Views on AI

Excellent Educator, 3(1), 5, 2026

Academic Insights

- Primary students hold mixed cognitive and emotional views of AI.
- AI is seen both as a machine and as a quasi-human entity.
- Students appreciate AI help but fear job loss, surveillance, and harm.
- Children call for regulation and slower AI development.
- Early AI exposure highlights the need for structured AI literacy.
- Children's voices are largely absent from AI policy debates.

Apply This Now

- Introduce AI through discussion, not just tools.
- Address fears alongside benefits explicitly.
- Teach AI as a social issue, not only a technology.

Add This in Your Lesson

Ask students to write: "What should adults know about AI?"

Avoid This Mistake

Assuming young learners see AI as neutral or harmless.

Keywords

Children and AI; AI literacy; Student perceptions; Ethics; Primary education

Reference

Walan, S. (2025). Primary school students' perceptions of artificial intelligence. *International Journal of Technology and Design Education*, 35, 25–40. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10798-024-09898-2>

Suggested Citation

Ross, E., & Malar, D. B. J. (2026). Children's Views on AI. *Excellent Educator*, 3(1), 5.