




Building AI natives

A new cross-disciplinary research initiative at MIT aims to promote the understanding and use of AI across all segments of society. The effort, called Responsible AI for Social Empowerment and Education (RAISE), will develop new teaching approaches and tools to engage learners in settings from preschool to the workforce.

The new initiative will advance three strategic impact areas:

-  Diversity and inclusion in AI: educating a more diverse and inclusive group of people in responsible design and use of AI technologies, who are representative of the communities they will be developing these products and services for
-  AI literacy in preK-12 education: bringing AI to young people within and beyond the classroom by developing and distributing curricula, teacher guides, and student-friendly AI tools that enable anyone, even those with no programming background, to create original applications for desktop and mobile computing
-  AI workforce training: training workers in technological concepts and ethical design issues - and applying those to real life problems. An example might be a programme to train radiology technicians in how AI systems interpret diagnostic imagery and, vitally, how they can err

“AI is having a truly transformative effect across broad swaths of society,” says RAISE Director Cynthia Breazeal. “Children today are not only digital natives, they’re AI natives. And adults need to understand AI to be able to engage in a democratic dialogue around how we want these systems deployed.”