Empowering Learners for the Age of AI: An AI Literacy Framework for Primary and Secondary Education

European Commission and OECD (2025)

Context

The **AILit Framework** is an initiative by the **European Commission** and the **OECD**, supported by Code.org and international experts. It contributes to **PISA 2029** and aligns with the **Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027**. The goal is to establish a **common language** for AI literacy to ensure consistent implementation across educational systems.

Framework Structure

The framework defines **four domains**:

1. **Engaging with AI** – Identify and analyze its uses.
2. **Creating with AI** – Collaborate in creative processes.
3. **Managing AI** – Decide on its use and define ethical rules.
4. **Designing AI** – Understand its functioning and impacts.

These domains combine:

- **Knowledge** (systems, biases, limitations, sustainability),
- **Skills** (critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, collaboration),
- **Attitudes** (responsibility, curiosity, empathy, adaptability).

Proposed Educational Scenarios

Engaging with AI

- **Primary:**
  - Identify everyday uses of AI (cameras, video recommendations).
  - Compare mathematical solutions produced by an AI tool with those of students.
  - Create a poster on AI's energy impact.
- **Secondary:**
  - Analyze an adaptive platform.
  - Verify the accuracy and biases of a historical chatbot.
  - Debate the responsible use of AI, considering its environmental cost.

Creating with AI

- **Primary:**
  - Enhance a story using a writing tool.
  - Create a song with a musical AI.
  - Compare student poems with those generated by AI.
- **Secondary:**
  - Use a coding assistant to debug a video game.
  - Design a multimedia campaign combining AI-generated text, images, and music.
  - Debate the use of artists' styles in image generators.

Managing AI

- **Primary:**
  - Decide whether a birthday card should be written by the student or an AI.
  - Design a simple prompt to generate a poster.
  - Develop classroom rules for fair AI use.
- **Secondary:**
  - Judge whether using an AI system is appropriate for a given task.
  - Distribute roles between humans and AI in research.
  - Lead a workshop on best practices for AI tools.

Designing AI

- **Primary:**
  - Sort blocks by color and shape to simulate data labeling.
  - Create a mini-model to classify healthy and unhealthy snacks.
  - Use generative AI to create riddles and test their quality.
- **Secondary:**
  - Train a simple model to recognize recyclable waste.
  - Compare a rule-based chatbot to a machine learning model.
  - Write a *model fact sheet* explaining the functioning, limitations, and possible uses of an AI system.