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Machine Learning: What is a Blorg?

Activity Plan

Overview

Students learn how AI recognizes patterns in data by training themselves to identify aliens called “blorgs.” They then create and share their own alien species to practice how machines (and people) learn from examples.

Recommended Grade Level(s): 1-2

Recommended Age Range: 6-8

Activity Length: 1 hour

Experience Level: Beginner

Technical Requirements

Teachers may facilitate the Guided Practice Interactive Activity on their own screen for the whole class (no student devices needed) or share the activity link with students so they can complete it individually. Devices are also needed if extending the lesson with the Teachable Machine activity.

- Device Requirements
 - Teachers will need a connected device to project the activity slides to their class
 - (Optional) 1 computer per student during class (Mac, PC, Chromebook all work great!)
 - Online connectivity at a minimum of 10Mb/sec
 - Modern browsers on computers
 - Chrome
 - Firefox
 - or Safari Version 15.1 or higher
- Tool Access
 - [Teachable Machine](#) (optional extension, not required)
- Note on Student Accounts:
 - Students do not need an account to complete this unplugged activity.

Activity Materials

All resources needed for this activity are included on the [lesson page](#).

Teacher Resources:



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- [Teacher Slides](#)
- [Lesson Plan](#)

Student Resources:

- Printed worksheet for each student ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))
- (Optional) Interactive Activity ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))

Teachers can complete this activity as a class. If they choose to have students complete this activity independently, they will need to share the activity link.

Content Standards

- **CSTA 1A-AP-08:** Model daily processes by creating and following algorithms (sets of step-by-step instructions) to complete tasks.
- **CSTA 1A-DA-06:** Collect and present the same data in various visual formats.
- **CSTA 1A-DA-07:** Identify and describe patterns in data visualizations, such as charts or graphs, to make predictions.

Teacher Instructions

- Before the Hour of AI:
 - Review the teacher resources and technical requirements, decide if you plan to run this activity unplugged as a class or have students complete the interactive activity independently (student devices are required).
 - Ensure that you have the ability to project the activity slides to your students.
 - Print the Create Your Own Alien worksheets.
- During the Hour of AI:
 - Lead students through the Machine Learning: What is a Blorg? lesson slides.
 - Facilitate the “Train to Identify Blorgs” activity and discussion.
 - Guide students as they create their own alien species and share with peers.
- After the Hour of AI:
 - Did you know that CodeHS offers K-12 AI curriculum, PD for teachers, and classroom tools? Go to codehs.com/ai to learn more how you and your students can continue learning about AI.

Need Help?

Email support@codehs.com to get in touch with our support team!