How To Use ChatGPT as a Learning Tool

First!

- Exhale. Don’t assume kids will use ChatGPT to cheat.
- Before you talk with kids about it, explore ChatGPT yourself. (It’s free at chat.openai.com)
- Think about the ways YOU might use it (create a recipe, write a syllabus, or a reading list).

Evaluate ChatGPT With Your Kids

1. Ask ChatGPT a question related to a topic your child may be studying, then discuss the answer you get to your prompt:
   - Analyze the language it used used. Does it sound like A.I.? Does it sound like a human responded?
   - What information, if any, is missing?
   - Does any of the information it gave you seem incorrect? How would you check?
   - Are any sources cited? Should any have been cited? If so, for which parts of the response?
   - Do you detect any biases in the response? If so, what are they?
   - If your students don’t know what A.I. is or how it works, ask ChatGPT this question. Discuss the response you receive. Ask ChatGPT further clarifying questions.

Possible Student Uses

1. Use ChatGPT to develop research questions.
   - Ask it for three possible questions on topic.
   - Ask it to develop three further questions on one of the above.
   - Ask it to suggest three thesis statements for the topic.
   - Discuss the suggested thesis statements. Which one do you like best and why?
o Find five references or examples that address the thesis statement you chose.

2. Have it create an outline for a paper.
   o Ask: Do all the sections make sense?
   o Ask: Does it need to be longer or shorter?
   o Ask: Is anything missing?
   o Refine the outline.

3. Demonstrate paraphrasing from a piece of text to illustrate plagiarism and citing sources.

4. Ask it to provide a prompt for a short essay.
   o Evaluate it for style and content
   o Ask: What’s missing or could be added?
   o Ask: Is the text specific enough?
   o Ask: Does the text have a point of view?
   o Ask: Does it use examples?
   o Find three sources or examples to support/contest the main points.

5. Generate a short text from a prompt and ask students to regenerate it in different voices. Ask: How do they differ?

General Talking Points

1. Make a list of possible ways you might use ChatGPT. Ask your kids to make list of their ideas on how to use it. Compare your lists.

2. Discuss Ethical Issues
   o When would it be OK or helpful?
   o When would it count as cheating?
   o What's in the middle?
   o Is this the same as plagiarism?
   o How do you know the information is accurate?

3. Be creative! Ask: What’s the coolest thing you can think of to do with ChatGPT?
4. Problem solve. Ask: What’s the worst thing you can think of that someone might do with it? What could be done about that (or what would you do about that)?

5. Discuss the benefits and challenges of AI like ChatGPT. Compare your opinions with your kids.

6. Most importantly, be sure your students are getting an education in digital literacy! Visit: www.cybercivics.com