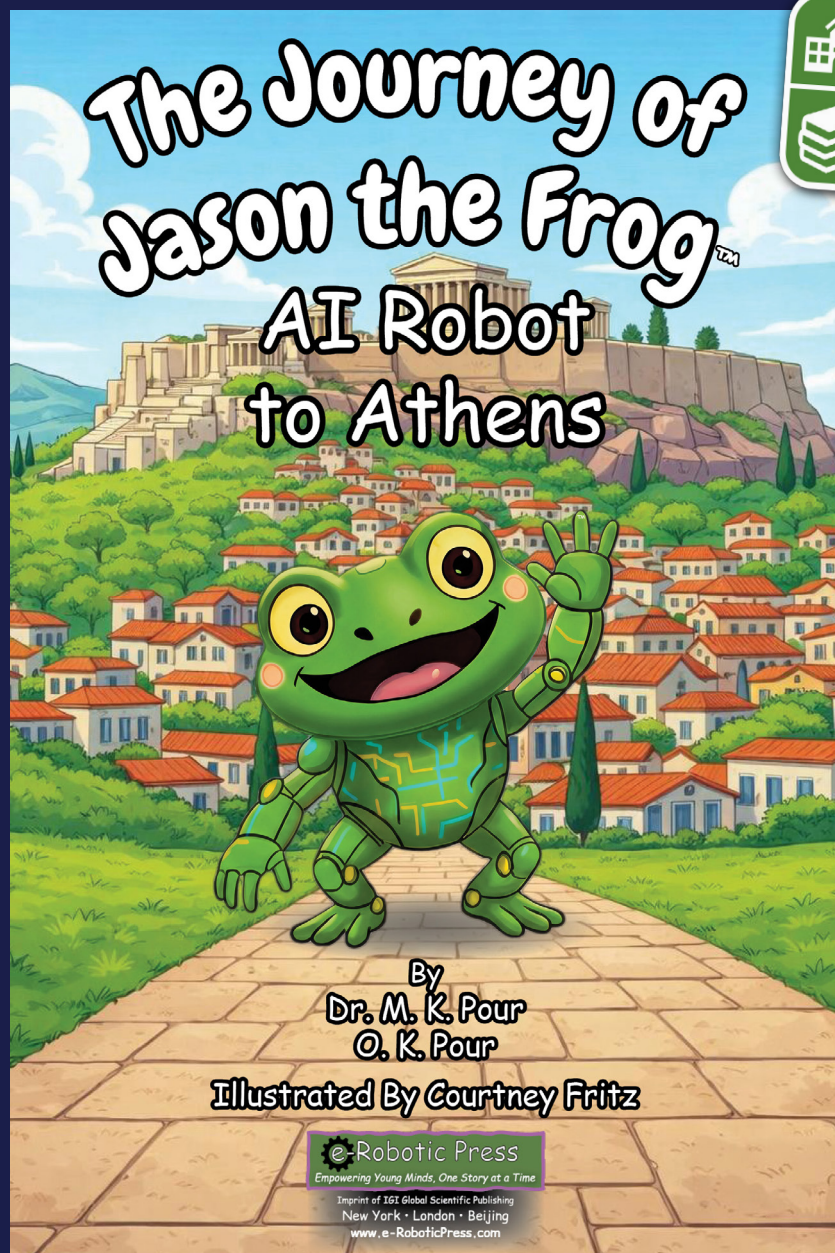


Educator Guide

Exploring Athens

With Jason the Frog



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Dear Readers,

In today's rapidly evolving age of artificial intelligence (AI), many children are hearing about and discussing AI without truly understanding what it is or how it works. At the same time, many parents are wondering whether their children are learning enough about AI and its far-reaching impact on their lives. In other words: *Are we preparing our children for the challenges AI presents today—and the even greater challenges it will bring in the future?*

The primary goal of **The Journey of Jason the Frog™** books is to educate children and spark their curiosity by exploring geographic landscapes while introducing them to AI's history, core concepts, real-world applications, research, careers, and the many opportunities AI systems offer.

As a former technology professor at a major state university for more than 20 years—and now as a parent of two children, ages 9 and 6—my wife and I face the same challenge as many other parents: preparing our children to navigate a world increasingly shaped by AI. It is essential to recognize that the only way our children can truly benefit from AI technologies is by developing their own intellectual and analytical abilities. AI tools are, ultimately, just that—tools created by humans to enhance productivity and improve our lives.

As parents, we must remain mindful that if we do not encourage our children to strengthen their minds, they may struggle to keep up with these systems. We certainly don't want them to become dependent on AI or allow it to think on their behalf. Encourage your children to use their own brains—to solve problems, generate ideas, and think critically—rather than relying entirely on AI to do the thinking for them.

These challenges are real, and they are not easy. But we have no alternative. We want our children to create, control, and master AI systems—not to be controlled by them. Remember: knowledge is power!

Sincerely,
Dr. M. K. Pour



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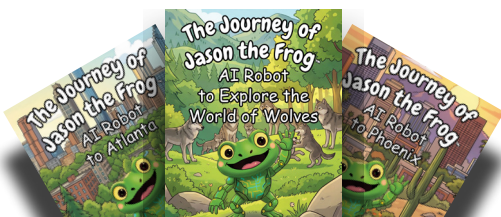
The Mission of This Educator Guide

The mission of this Educator Guide is to extend the learning experience of *The Journey of Jason the Frog™* book series by providing educators, librarians, and families with engaging, age-appropriate activities that deepen children's understanding of geography, artificial intelligence (AI), and critical thinking. Designed to spark curiosity and meaningful discussion, the guide encourages young learners to explore how AI works, where it appears in everyday life, and how it can be used responsibly—while reinforcing the importance of independent thinking, creativity, and problem-solving alongside technology.



“ Finally something with real substance, not just pointless storyline. My child loved the book. The AI notes and Did you know? sections led to deep meaningful conversations we wouldn't have had otherwise. It turned reading time into learning time in the best way. Quality is great too, bright illustrations and cute characters. Highly recommend! ”

—Amazon Review



The Journey of Jason the Frog™ AI Robot to Athens

In *The Journey of Jason the Frog™ AI Robot to Athens*, young readers join Jason the Frog, an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered robot frog, on a fun-filled adventure to one of the world's oldest and most historic capital cities. Filled with engaging storytelling, clear definitions, fun facts, quiz questions, and an interactive activity, this book makes learning about nature, culture, technology, and city life exciting and accessible for children.

Discussion Questions

Understanding the City

1. Why is Athens called the “cradle of modern civilization?” What important ideas began there?
2. Where is Athens located, and how do the surrounding mountains affect the city’s climate?
3. What role did the Acropolis play in ancient Athens, and why is it still important today?
4. Athens is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. How does the author show the connection between ancient and modern life in the city?
5. Why is public transportation important in Athens? How do the metro, buses, and ferries help people move around such a busy city?

Reflection and Personal Connection

1. Would you like to visit Athens after reading this book? Which place or activity sounds most exciting to you?
2. Do you think AI will improve life for people in the future? Give one example from the book to support your answer.

Technology and Critical Thinking

1. One AI Note explains how AI-powered search engines help researchers. How does this change the way people learn and find information?
2. The book mentions AI-powered wearables that track health data. How could this technology help people stay healthy?
3. Several Future of AI sidebars describe advanced uses of AI, such as digital doctors, air-traffic systems for drones, and virtual reality performances. Which example interested you the most? Why?
4. One AI Note warns that relying too much on AI could weaken memory and creativity. Why is it important to balance technology use with human thinking?
5. How could AI help cities like Athens protect historical landmarks while still welcoming tourists?
6. Why do you think the book includes both positive possibilities and risks related to AI?
7. How might AI reflect the values or biases of the people who design it, and why is that important to consider when using AI in education, healthcare, or city planning?

Research Questions

1. Choose one ancient landmark from the book (such as the Acropolis or the Parthenon) and research its history and purpose.
2. Research one modern use of AI mentioned in the book. How is it being used today?
3. Find out how Athens protects its ancient ruins. Is technology or AI used in preservation efforts?
4. Research one famous Athenian philosopher (Socrates, Plato, or Aristotle). What idea are they best known for, and why does it still matter?

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Writing and Extension Activities

AI Tour Guide

Imagine you are designing an AI tour guide for Athens. What places would it show visitors, and what rules would it follow to protect history and people?

Ancient vs. Modern Athens Chart

Create a two-column chart comparing life in ancient Athens with life in modern Athens (government, transportation, entertainment, education).

Create Your Own Future of AI Sidebar

Write your own Future of AI sidebar that could be added to the book. Explain a new way AI could help the world in 10, 50, or 100 years.

Future of AI Journal Entry

Write a journal entry set 30 years in the future. Describe how AI has changed travel, healthcare, or education in a city like Athens.

Technology Opinion Paragraph

Answer this question: *Should AI help make important decisions for people?* Use at least one example from the book to support your opinion.

Design a Smart Neighborhood

Design a smart neighborhood using technology or AI, and explain how it helps people and stays under human control.

Key Vocabulary

Artificial Intelligence (AI): AI is when we teach computers to solve problems, make decisions, or help us—almost like they have a brain of their own.

Cradle of Civilization: A cradle of civilization is a place where some of the earliest human societies began and where important ideas, inventions, and ways of living first developed.

Basin: A basin is a low-lying area of land that is surrounded by higher ground, such as hills or mountains.

Authentic: When something is authentic, it means it is real, true, or genuine—not fake or copied.

Dominant Language: A dominant language is the main language used in a place. It is the language of school, government, signs, and daily life.

Gyro: A gyro is a popular Greek street food made of seasoned meat cooked on a tall, spinning vertical rotisserie.

Trolleybus: A trolleybus is a vehicle like a bus, but instead of using gasoline or diesel, it runs on electricity supplied through overhead wires.

Democracy: Democracy is a system of government in which power is held by the people, who either make decisions directly or elect representatives to make decisions for them.

Water Polo: Water polo is a pool sport where teams score goals by throwing a ball into a net while treading water the entire time.

Crown Jewel: A crown jewel is the most valuable, beautiful, or important part of a collection or place.

Agriculture: Agriculture is the science and practice of growing crops, raising animals, and managing natural resources to produce food and other important products.

Funicular: A funicular is a cable-operated railway designed to transport people up and down steep slopes.



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AI Quiz

Instructions: Complete the quiz below based on the information provided in the book's AI Notes.

1. How does the book define artificial intelligence (AI)?

- A) Computers playing video games for fun
- B) Teaching computers to be funny
- C) Teaching computers to solve problems
- D) Robots replacing humans in everyday jobs

2. How do AI-powered search engines help researchers?

- A) They instantly provide comprehensive results
- B) They decide which topic to research next
- C) They memorize information for later use
- D) They remove the need to read sources

3. What can AI-powered wearables help people track?

- A) Favorite foods and daily moods
- B) Internet speed and screen brightness
- C) Weather conditions and air quality
- D) Heart rate, steps, sleep, and health data

4. How is AI used in modern army training?

- A) To operate real weapons during practice
- B) To replace soldiers with robots
- C) To create computer-based combat simulations
- D) To design new military uniforms

5. How do clothing brands use AI “digital twins?”

- A) To advertise clothes on social media
- B) To test how clothes fit and move virtually
- C) To automatically sew garments
- D) To choose colors for new designs

6. What is one risk of relying too much on AI?

- A) It may weaken memory and creative thinking
- B) It makes computers stop working properly
- C) It causes devices to overheat quickly
- D) It prevents learning new technology

7. How many U.S. states include AI literacy in K–12 standards?

- A) All 50 states
- B) More than 20 states
- C) Fewer than 10 states
- D) Exactly 4 states

8. What does the book suggest is a correct use of AI?

- A) Making decisions without human input
- B) Solving every problem automatically
- C) Helping humans access information
- D) Controlling how people learn in school

9. How has AI changed the drug development process?

- A) By removing the need for clinical trials
- B) By replacing doctors and scientists
- C) By reducing development time to just months
- D) By making medicines unnecessary

10. What is something AI cannot do according to the book?

- A) Completely replace the need for humans
- B) Instantly provide large amounts of information
- C) Help people monitor health-related data
- D) Support learning and problem-solving tasks

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Fun With Jason the Frog

Instructions: Max and Jason the Frog are looking at pictures from their trip to Athens, but something looks a little different. Look closely at the two images below. They look almost the same, but they are not! Can you find 5 differences between the two pictures? Circle each difference as you find it. Take your time and use your super-smart detective eyes—just like Jason the Frog uses his AI brain!



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About the Authors

Dr. M. K. Pour, DBA, MS, MBA is an educator, author, and publishing leader with a lifelong passion for learning and knowledge sharing. Throughout his academic career, he has been deeply committed to helping students develop strong analytical and critical thinking skills—an approach that continues to shape his work today.

His professional life has been dedicated to advancing research, education, and ethical knowledge dissemination across disciplines. Over the course of his scholarly publishing career, he has authored and/or edited numerous peer-reviewed articles and books, including his 10-volume reference work, [*Encyclopedia of Modern Artificial Intelligence*](#). In addition, he has served as Editor-in-Chief or founding Editor-in-Chief of many respected academic journals, contributing significantly to the global scholarly community.

Beyond his professional achievements, Dr. M. K. Pour is also a devoted father of two young children. As both a longtime professor and a parent, he understands the challenges families face in preparing children for a world increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence (AI). While children hear about AI every day, many lack a clear, age-appropriate understanding of what it is, how it works, and how it should be used responsibly.

The Journey of Jason the Frog™ series was created from this dual perspective—as an educator and as a parent. The books are designed to spark curiosity, strengthen intellectual independence, and encourage children to think critically while learning about geography, technology, and the real-world applications of AI. Dr. M. K. Pour believes that AI should empower children—not replace their thinking—and that true preparation for the future begins with nurturing young minds to question, explore, and learn.

O. K. Pour, MA, MBA developed a love of reading at an early age—a passion that continues to form both her personal and professional life. As an avid traveler and lifelong learner, she firmly believes in the power of education to open doors, spark curiosity, and inspire confidence.

She holds a Bachelor degree in Accounting, a Master of Arts degree in the field of linguistics, and a Master of Business Administration. Her background in finance and business management has strengthened her leadership skills and deepened the appreciation for thoughtful planning and informed decision-making qualities that are increasingly important in a world that is being transformed by artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies. These experiences encouraged Mrs. Pour to look beyond her professional work and begin a new journey as a researcher and writer.

Writing for young readers allows her to combine the love of learning with a desire to encourage curiosity, resilience, and humanity in children. Mrs. Pour hopes that every reader walks away with something useful—whether it is a new idea, a sense of possibility, or encouragement to keep asking questions.

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An Interview With O. K. Pour

Q: What inspired you to help create *The Journey of Jason the Frog*TM book series, and why did you feel it was important to introduce topics like AI to children?

A: The inspiration came from several aspects of my life: my professional experience as a Chief Strategy Officer at a scientific publishing house, my own continuous learning mindset, and my life as a parent watching how early my children began interacting with technology and even discussing AI among themselves.

I realized that children are growing up surrounded by AI-driven or soon-to-be AI-driven technologies, yet their understanding of them is often framed by mystery or fantasy. Jason the Frog was born from the idea that complex concepts don't have to be intimidating or abstract.

In *The Journey of Jason the Frog*TM, young readers follow a curious robot frog who learns through machine learning and needs large amounts of data to train his AI. Max, the creator's son and Jason the Frog's best friend, takes him on different adventures where they explore cities, landmarks, animals, and geography. Along the way, we include carefully curated AI notes and Future of AI sidebars to introduce AI technology at present and in its future applications. This approach gives children an understanding that AI is a tool designed by people, so they can feel empowered rather than overwhelmed.

Q: As both an author and a parent, what do you believe children need most when learning about technology and AI today?

A: Above all, children need context and a safe space to ask questions. Research shows that understanding develops best when new information is connected to real-world storytelling. From a parent's perspective, I also see how quickly children lose interest when a story fails to fully capture their attention. Blending a nonfiction narrative with just a touch of age-appropriate descriptions of technology creates a kind of combination that keeps children engaged and curious.

Young children don't need technical depth; they need a simple, foundational understanding of what technology can do, what it cannot do, and why humans must remain responsible for the choices behind it. To reinforce this sense of human control and accountability, each book includes both a warning note and an inspiration note. This approach is especially important when introducing AI, as children should be reminded that creativity, empathy, and judgment are uniquely human qualities and that technology is most effective when guided by these traits.

Lastly, AI is not a passing trend. Despite some skepticism or denial, AI is here to stay, and it will become an integral part of our children's lives. Preparing them with understanding and ethical awareness is not an option, it is a necessity.

Q: The books encourage curiosity and critical thinking. How can parents and educators use stories like Jason the Frog to help children ask better questions about the world around them?

A: The stories of Jason the Frog create a safe space for learning, not only in the field of technology, but also across subjects such as domestic and international travel, biology, archaeology, and space exploration (with many more topics to come!). When children follow a character like Jason the Frog, they naturally begin to understand that the world is a big place, and that it takes many different kinds of people and technology to make it function.

To support this learning, we have developed free supplemental materials for parents and educators that offer guidance on how to use *The Journey of Jason the Frog™* at home or in classroom settings. Both parents and teachers are encouraged to pause during or after the story to ask open-ended questions, such as:

- What do you think would happen if the technology worked differently?
- Why is the city we are reading about called "XYZ?" How does the book show how the city's past and present exist together today?
- How do food, celebrations, or sports help people feel connected to the city?

These discussions don't require right or wrong answers. Their purpose is to help children think critically about what they are reading by questioning assumptions, considering alternatives, and making connections across different subjects.

Q: What is one misconception about AI that you think is especially important to clarify for young learners?

A: In my opinion, one of the most important misconceptions to address is the idea that AI "thinks" or "decides" independently like a human. AI is not capable of these skills, at least not yet, if ever. For young learners, it is crucial to understand that AI doesn't have emotions, intentions, or morals. It doesn't "know" things the way people do, it follows instructions and patterns created by humans. When this distinction isn't clear, children overestimate AI's abilities and underestimate human responsibility. By clarifying that people design, train, and guide AI systems, we help children understand accountability and ethics. They learn that technology reflects human choices and that those choices matter.

Q: What do you hope readers take away from reading this book series, not just about AI, geography, or animals, but about learning itself?

A: Across our books, we touch on many topics including conservation of landmarks and endangered animal species, emerging careers that do not yet exist, and the evolving relationship between people, technology, and the planet to reinforce the idea that the future is not something to fear, but something to embrace. More than anything, I hope young readers take away the idea that learning is an ongoing journey, not a final destination. Whether they are learning about AI, geography, or a completely different subject, the habit of curiosity will serve them for life. I also hope they come away with confidence that big ideas are accessible, that learning is a privilege, and that each of them have a role to play in shaping the future of the world.

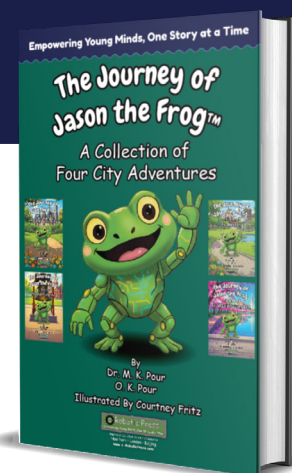
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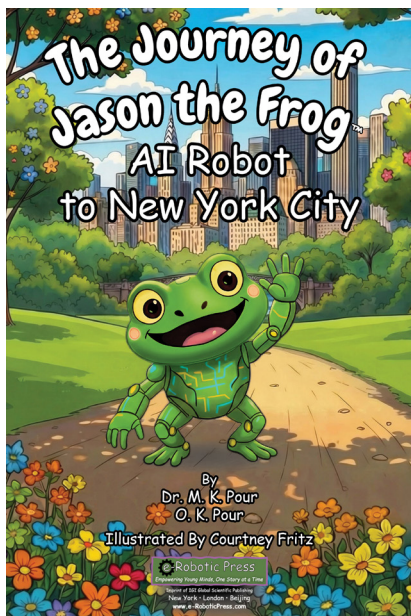
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Praise for *The Journey of Jason the Frog™*



ISBN: 9781971794006

“As a mother of two young boys, it can be difficult to find books that strike the perfect balance between engaging characters and facts that are meaningful, interesting, and educational. The Journey of Jason the Frog books do exactly that, while also making travel and learning feel exciting, approachable, and fun for children.”

—Amazon Review

“Our whole family loves this series. Navigating AI is hard enough as an adult—trying to explain it to kids is a whole different challenge. Jason’s journey makes everything feel fun, clear, and surprisingly easy to understand. We’ve really enjoyed it and found it genuinely helpful.”

—Amazon Review



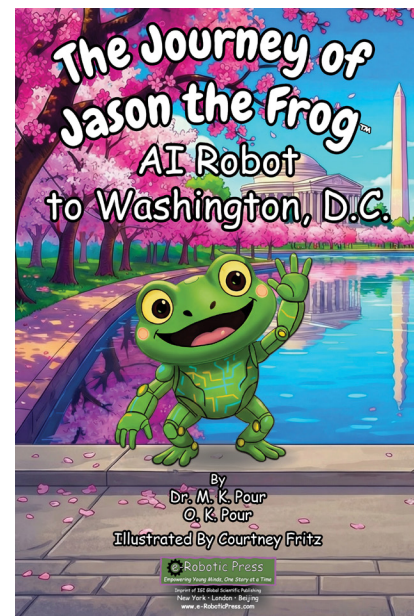
ISBN: 9781971794112

“As a homeschool mom, I think this book is excellent! It provides a lot of information about Rome and AI at a level that kids can understand. It’s well organized, and the characters are fun. The artwork is very well done, and my grandkids love looking through the pictures and finding details. I would use these books as an elementary geography course.”

—Amazon Review

“Finally something with real substance, not just pointless storyline. My child loved the book. The AI notes and Did you know? sections led to deep meaningful conversations we wouldn’t have had otherwise. It turned reading time into learning time in the best way. Quality is great too, bright illustrations and cute characters. Highly recommend!”

—Amazon Review



ISBN: 9781971794044

“I bought this book to try it out, as my child has been asking a lot of questions about AI, and I’m glad I did! The book is very educational and engaging, with interesting facts about cities and landmarks. It’s also not just a one-time read—kids can come back to it and keep learning. I’m definitely planning to order more from this series. Highly recommend!”

—Amazon Review

“I just finished reading Jason the Frog to Washington, D.C. with my kids, and I absolutely loved it! The story is charming and educational, and Illustrations are vibrant. The bonus AI Quiz at the end had us all laughing, some of the answers were hilarious. A wonderful book that keeps kids engaged!”

—Amazon Review

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