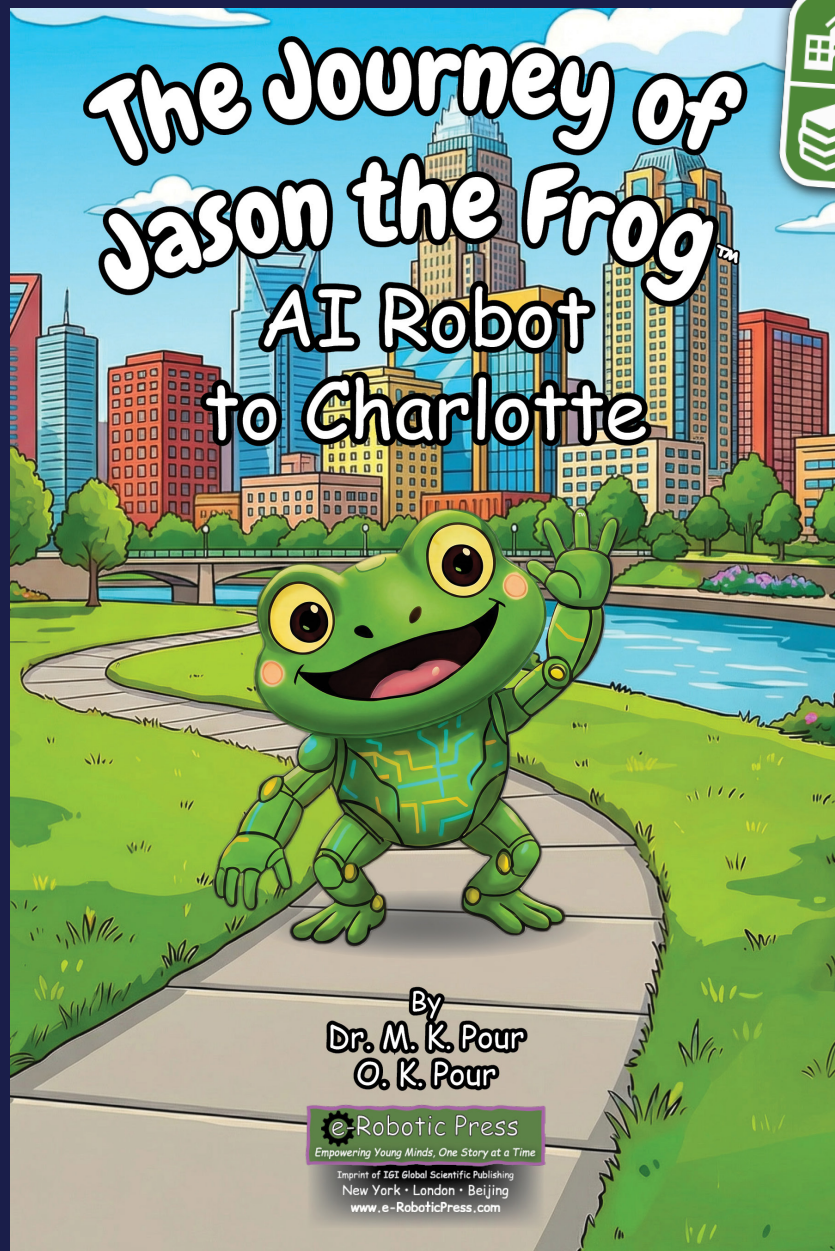


Educator Guide

Exploring Charlotte With Jason the Frog



 APPEALS TO
3RD-6TH GRADERS

 READING LEVEL
GRADE 3

ISBN: 9781971794204

 **e-Robotic Press**
Empowering Young Minds, One Story at a Time

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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 Charlotte

In *The Journey of Jason the Frog™ AI Robot to Charlotte*, young readers join Jason the Frog, an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered robot frog, on an exciting adventure through North Carolina's Queen City. Filled with engaging storytelling, clear definitions, fun facts, quiz questions, and an interactive activity, this book makes learning about history, city life, culture, and technology exciting and accessible for children.

Discussion Questions

Understanding the City

1. Why is Charlotte called the “Queen City?” Who was the city named after, and why does naming matter in understanding history?
2. How did Charlotte's location in the Piedmont region and near the Catawba River help shape its land, farming, and growth?
3. Why was Charlotte once called “the hornet's nest of rebellion?” What does this nickname tell us about the city during the American Revolution?
4. How did the discovery of gold and the arrival of the railroad change Charlotte's future?
5. Charlotte has nearly 200 neighborhoods and many spoken languages. What does this diversity tell us about modern cities?
6. Charlotte is known today as a major banking and business center. How do you think its history (gold mining, railroads, and location) helped prepare it to become an important financial city?

Reflection and Personal Connection

1. Do you think AI should help people make everyday decisions, or only big ones?
2. How can people make sure AI is used fairly and safely?

Technology and Critical Thinking

1. The book compares AI learning to how children learn new rules and words. In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?
2. One AI Note explains that AI predicts what comes next based on patterns. Can you think of something people do the same way?
3. The book warns that relying too much on AI can weaken memory and creativity. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
4. Several Future of AI sidebars talk about AI helping with dangerous jobs, cooking, sign language, or big projects. Which one do you think is most helpful—and why?
5. How could AI improve life in a growing city like Charlotte (transportation, safety, parks, sports, or schools)?
6. AI learns from data created by people. What could happen if the data is incomplete or unfair? How might that affect the answers AI gives?
7. The book explains that humans design and guide AI. Why is it important for people—not machines—to stay in charge of how AI is used?

Research Questions

1. Find an example of how AI helps people with disabilities. How does it compare to the Future of AI sidebars in the book?
2. Research a real-life example of AI used in sports, transportation, or medicine today.
3. Research how AI learns to recognize faces, words, or patterns, and explain how this learning is similar to how kids learn new things.
4. How is AI already helping people today, and how might it help even more in the future?

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Writing and Extension Activities

Design a Neighborhood

Create a new Charlotte neighborhood. Decide what transportation, parks, and buildings it would need. Include one way AI could help people there.

Past, Present, and Future Chart

Make a chart showing how Charlotte changed from the past, to today, to how it might look in the future with AI.

Technology Opinion Writing

Answer this question: *Should AI be used in cities to help make decisions for people?* Use details from the book to support your answer.

Jason the Frog's AI Log

Write a diary entry from Jason the Frog explaining what he learned about Charlotte and how this trip helped him better understand AI.

Create a Future of AI Sidebar

Design an original Future of AI sidebar that could be added to the book. Explain a realistic way AI could help people in the future.

AI-Human Roles Venn Diagram

List tasks from the book in a Venn diagram: AI Can Help, Humans Should Lead, and Both Working Together. Explain one choice.

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.

Plateau: A plateau is a large, flat area of land that is higher than the land around it and is at least 500 feet above sea level.

Rebellion: A rebellion is when people fight against or refuse to follow authority.

Converse: Converse means to talk with someone and share ideas back and forth.

Dispersed: Something dispersed is spread out in many different places.

Fascinating: Something is fascinating if it is so interesting that you want to keep watching or learning about it.

Stock Car: A stock car is a race car that starts out looking like a regular, factory-made car but is specially changed to go very fast and stay safe during racing.

Whitewater Rafting: Whitewater rafting is when people ride strong inflatable boats down fast, rough-moving rivers.

Pimentos: Pimentos are mild, sweet red chili peppers.

Finance: Finance is the study of how people and businesses manage and use money.

Aviation: Aviation means designing, making, or flying aircraft like airplanes or helicopters.

Rehabilitated Animal: A rehabilitated animal is one that has been cared for so it can recover from injuries or illnesses.



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AI Quiz

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

1. What does facial recognition AI do, according to the book?

- A) It remembers names people tell it
- B) It looks at special parts of a face
- C) It copies how people talk to each other
- D) It predicts what someone will say

2. Which change can AI handle when recognizing a person's face?

- A) A person moving to a new city
- B) A person getting older over time
- C) A change in hair or wearing glasses
- D) A person changing their voice

3. One AI Note warns that relying too much on AI may do what?

- A) Make computers stop working correctly
- B) Improve creativity without effort
- C) Make learning faster for everyone
- D) Reduce memory and creativity skills

4. How do some AI systems answer questions?

- A) By copying answers from books
- B) By predicting which word comes next
- C) By asking people for help
- D) By memorizing every question

5. What example is used to explain how AI learns rules and language?

- A) A teacher grading homework
- B) A robot building machines
- C) A child learning words and grammar
- D) A computer fixing itself

6. What must AI be taught before it can use language correctly?

- A) Advanced science facts
- B) Basic rules and structure
- C) Famous stories and jokes
- D) Internet search skills

7. Reinforcement learning from human feedback (RLHF) is compared to what?

- A) Reading a long instruction book
- B) Solving math problems alone
- C) Fixing mistakes without help
- D) Training a puppy with rewards

8. What happens when AI shows a skill it was not directly taught?

- A) It is called programmed behavior
- B) It is considered an error
- C) It is called emergent behavior
- D) It is erased from memory

9. Understanding jokes or emojis is an example of what AI concept?

- A) Facial recognition
- B) Emergent behavior
- C) Reinforcement learning
- D) Pattern copying

10. According to one AI Note, what are scientists using AI to help create?

- A) Faster computers for games
- B) New medicines for people
- C) Larger machines for cities
- D) Better materials for the environment

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Fun With Jason the Frog

Jason the Frog's Queen City Charlotte Adventure

Instructions: Ask someone for the types of words below, then fill them in to see my story!

1. Type of cool object: _____
2. Verb ending in -ing (silly action): _____
3. Place in Charlotte: _____
4. Noun (thing): _____
5. Adjective: _____
6. Verb: _____
7. Silly sound: _____
8. Food: _____
9. Number: _____
10. Adjective ending in -ing: _____



Story

Hi! I'm Jason the Frog, an AI robot frog. Today, I grabbed my shiny [1] _____ and hopped on the light rail, [2] _____ all the way to [3] _____ in Charlotte. I hopped off feeling excited for an adventure in the Queen City.

Suddenly... SPLAT! I slipped on a giant [4] _____ near the sidewalk. My circuits almost shorted!

"Oh no!" I thought. "This is so [5] _____!"



I quickly [6] _____ behind a statue, making a loud [7] _____ sound that startled a group of passing Panthers fans! Luckily, some friendly Charlotte neighbors shared their delicious [8] _____ with me, and I felt powered up again. By the time the city lights turned on, I had made [9] _____ new friends and discovered that exploring Charlotte is always [10] _____!



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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*[™] 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*[™], 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.

Coming Soon:

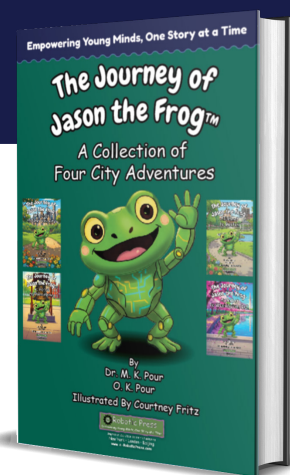
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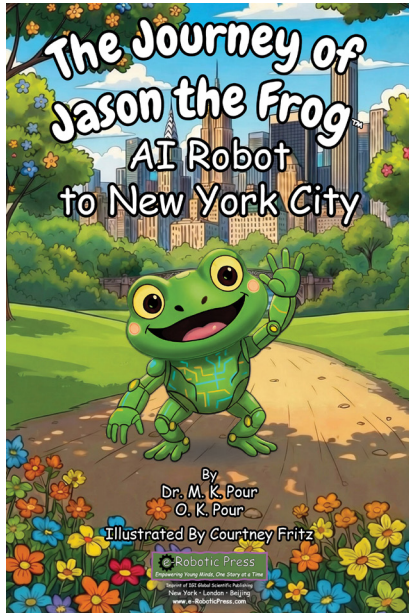
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Praise for *The Journey of Jason the Frog™*



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



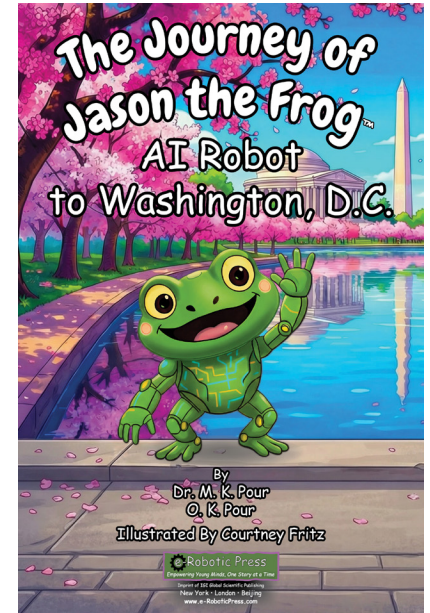
ISBN: 9781971794112

“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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