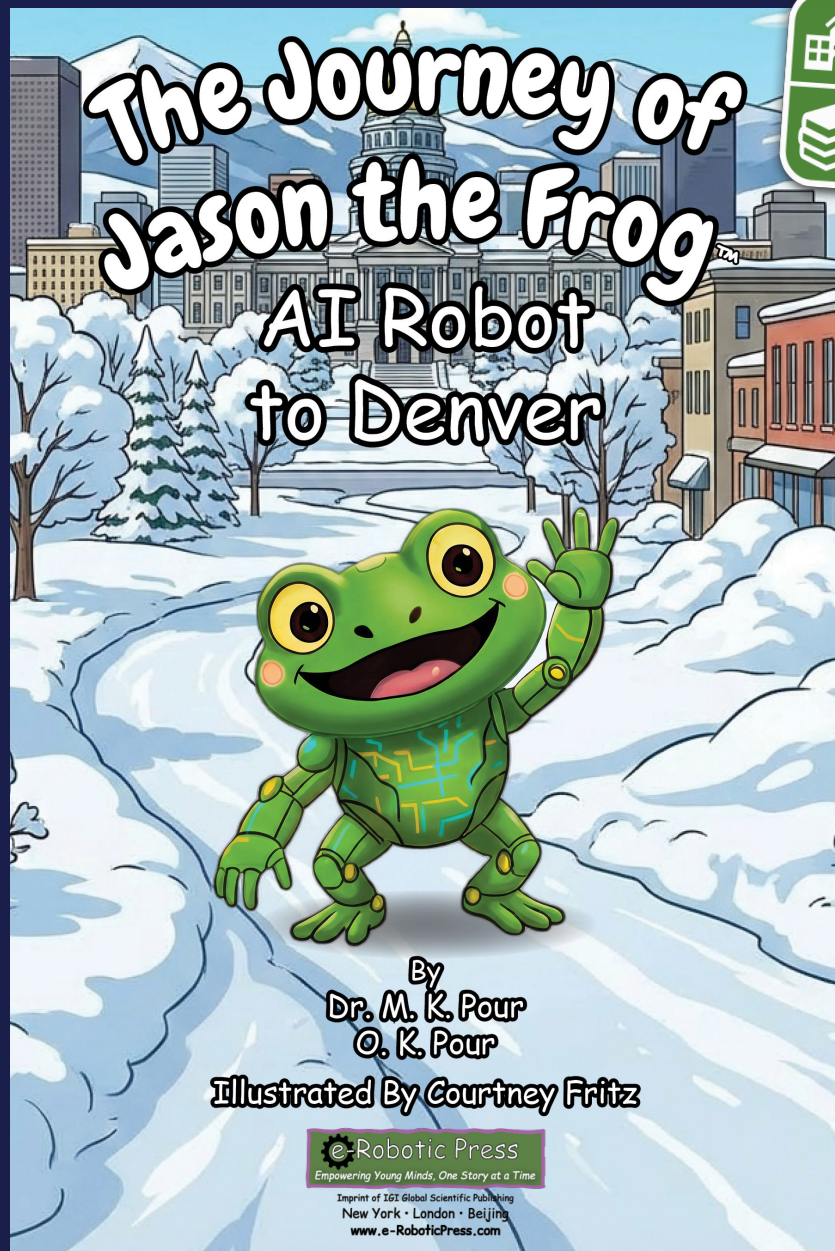


Educator Guide

Exploring Denver

With Jason the Frog



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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 Denver

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

Discussion Questions

Understanding the City

1. Why is Denver called the "Mile High City?" How does its high elevation affect the weather and number of sunny days?
2. How did Denver's location near the Rocky Mountains and the South Platte River help the city grow and develop?
3. Who lived on the land before Denver was founded in 1858? How did life change after gold prospectors arrived during the Colorado Gold Rush?
4. Denver is made up of many different neighborhoods, such as Downtown, Capitol Hill, Five Points, and Washington Park. How are these neighborhoods similar and different?
5. Why do many people in Denver enjoy outdoor activities like skiing, hiking, and biking? How does the environment influence the city's lifestyle?

Reflection and Personal Connection

1. Would you like to live in a city like Denver? What part of the city or activities described in the book interest you most?
2. Do you think AI will make life better for people in the future? What examples from the book support your opinion?

Technology and Critical Thinking

1. The book explains that AI helps solve problems by finding patterns in large amounts of data. Why is this different from how humans think and learn? Why does that matter?
2. Denver experiences both snowy winters and many sunny days. How could AI help people prepare for changing weather conditions or stay safe during extreme weather?
3. One AI Note explains that AI helps scientists discover patterns and ideas quickly. What are some benefits of this? Can you think of any risks?
4. The book mentions AI systems that can monitor public safety using cameras and sensors. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using AI this way in cities?
5. AI is used to create new foods and study ingredients. How might this affect how people eat in the future? What are some benefits and concerns?
6. One Future of AI sidebar talks about wearable technology that tracks health. How could this improve people's lives? When might human doctors still be more important than AI?

Research Questions

1. Choose one Future of AI example from the book. How close are scientists to making this technology widely available today?
2. Find out what kinds of data AI systems need to learn. Who decides what data is used, and why is that important?
3. Research how AI is currently used in Denver or in your own city. How is it similar to or different from the examples in the book?
4. Pick a famous Denver landmark, such as Red Rocks Amphitheatre or the Colorado State Capitol. Is AI used in any way to manage it?

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Writing and Extension Activities

AI City Helper

Imagine you are designing an AI system to help the city of Denver. What problem would it solve, and how would it make life easier for people?

AI vs. Human Chart

Make a chart and list tasks that are better for AI and tasks that should be done by people. Explain your choices.

Create Your Own Future of AI Sidebar

Write an original Future of AI sidebar that could be added to the book. Explain how AI might help the world in 10, 50, or 100 years.

Future of AI Journal Entry

Write a journal entry set 20 years in the future. Describe how AI has changed life in Denver and what new adventures Jason the Frog might have.

Technology Opinion Paragraph

Answer this question: *Should AI help make important decisions for people?* Use examples 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.

Regalia: Regalia are special clothes and decorations worn for important events, celebrations, or ceremonies, often showing a person's culture, history, or achievements.

Plain: A plain is a large area of flat land with limited vegetation.

Prospectors: Prospectors are people who search for valuable minerals, like gold, often by mining or panning in rivers.

4D Movie: A 4D movie is a movie that uses moving seats and special effects, like wind, water, or smells, to make the movie feel real and exciting.

Degree: A degree is a special award that students earn after they finish their learning at a college or university.

Urban: Urban means related to a city. It is a place where many people live close together where there are buildings, roads, shops, and public transportation.

White-Water Rafting: White-water rafting is an outdoor activity where people ride in an inflatable raft down fast-moving rivers with rough water, waves, and rapids.

Light Rail Trains: Light rail trains are electric trains that run on tracks through the city and suburbs.

Amphitheater: An amphitheater is a round or open outdoor place with rows of seats where people watch shows, music, or performances.

Green Chili: Green chili is a spicy sauce or stew made from green chili peppers. People often eat it on foods like burritos, burgers, tamales, and other dishes.

Crusade: A crusade is a strong effort or movement to achieve an important goal, often driven by deep beliefs or values.



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AI Quiz

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

1. What is one way that AI helps scientists?

- A) By doing experiments all by itself
- B) By reading lots of documents very fast
- C) By replacing all scientists
- D) By drawing pictures

2. What is something that AI can find for scientists?

- A) Toys
- B) Homework answers
- C) Hidden patterns
- D) Weather storms

3. Which AI became famous in 2011 for winning a quiz show?

- A) Deep Blue
- B) Siri
- C) Watson
- D) Alexa

4. What was the name of the quiz show Watson won?

- A) *Wheel of Fortune*
- B) *Jeopardy!*
- C) *Family Feud*
- D) *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?*

5. How do some food scientists use AI?

- A) To cook dinner at home
- B) To study flavors, textures, and ingredients
- C) To wash dishes
- D) To order food online

6. What kind of foods can AI help create?

- A) Only candy
- B) Frozen desserts only
- C) Plant based meats and healthy snacks
- D) Just fruits

7. Who first created the chess computer that became Deep Blue?

- A) A famous chess player
- B) Dr. Feng hsiung Hsu
- C) A robot
- D) NASA

8. What was Deep Blue called before it was named Deep Blue?

- A) Smart Brain
- B) Chess Master
- C) Deep Thought
- D) Watson

9. How do modern AI systems learn?

- A) By guessing
- B) By watching TV
- C) By looking at lots of data
- D) By feeling emotions

10. What does AI help NASA's rovers do on the planet Mars?

- A) Look for Martians
- B) Dig for gold
- C) Drive and choose rocks to study
- D) Plant potatoes and corn

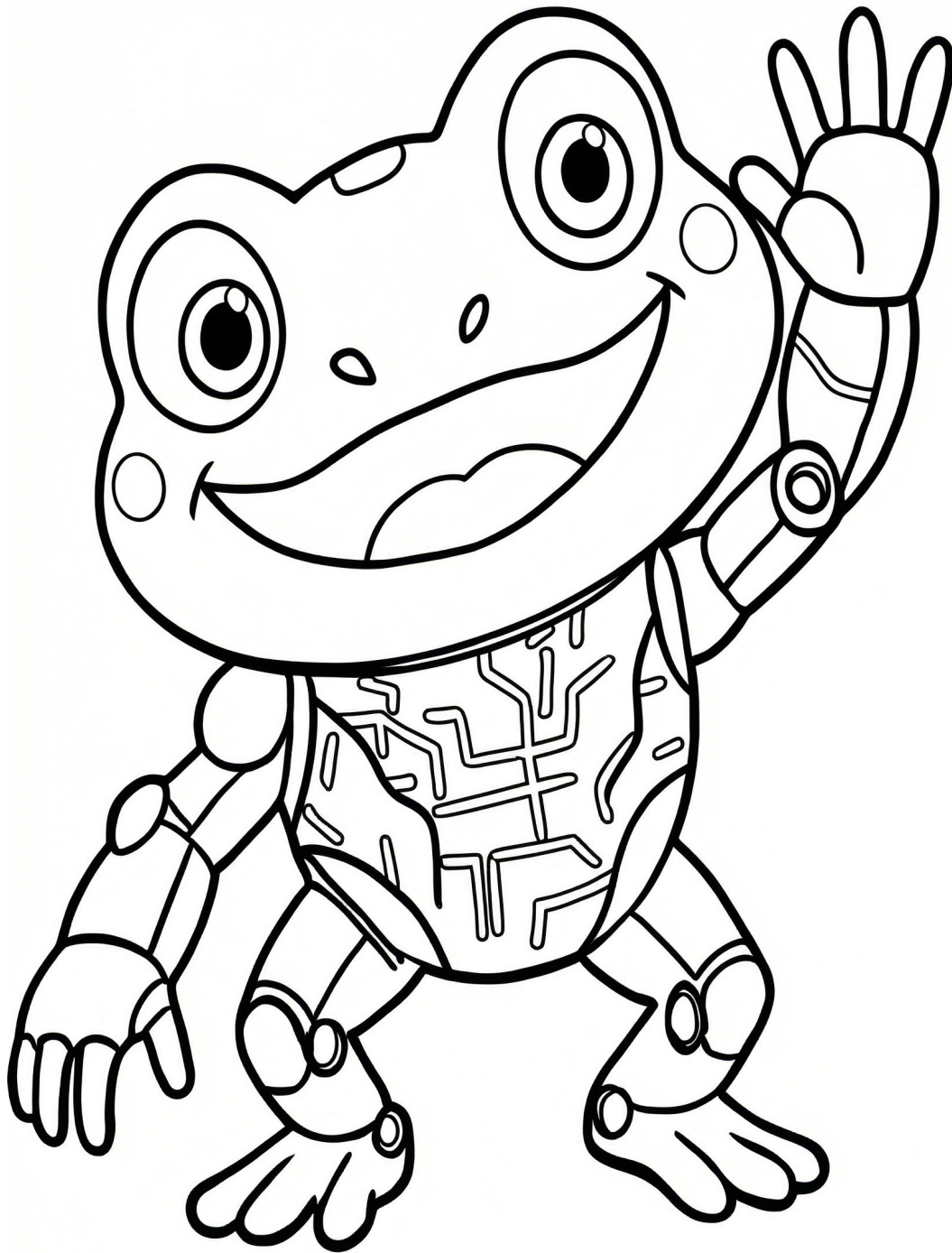
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Fun With Jason the Frog

Instructions: Can you help Professor Codewell finish designing Jason the Frog in his high-tech lab in New York City?
What colors should he be? Color him in!



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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.

Coming Soon:

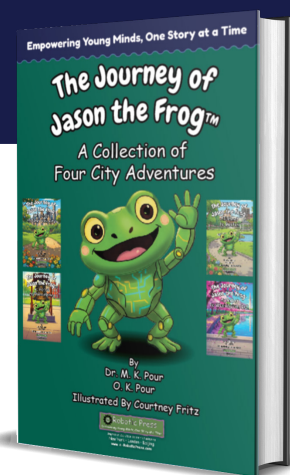
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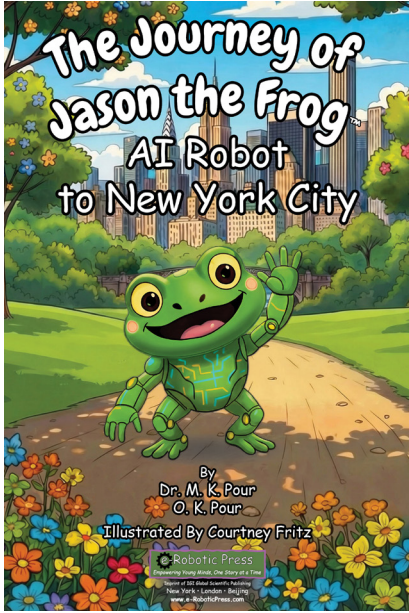
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Praise for *The Journey of Jason the Frog™*



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



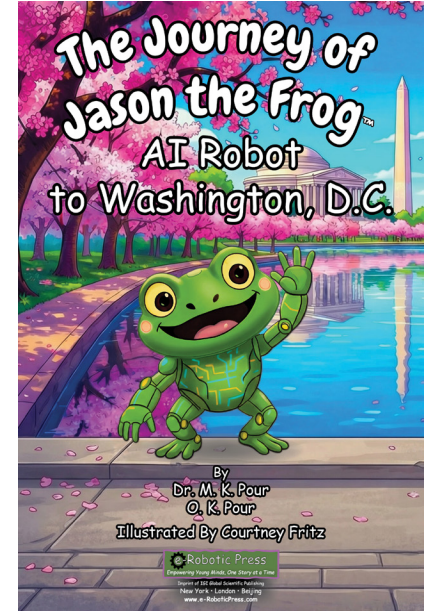
ISBN: 9781971794112

“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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