

Supporting (Not Replacing) the Human Touch

AI in Early Childhood Education



Presented by
Adrienne & Owen

Marketing Manager & Product Advisor @ Family

Join the **Early Childhood Learning Solutions**
community: <http://www.edweb.net/earlychildhood>

- **Post** in the chat to join the live discussion!
- **To ask a question**, click the question mark icon.
- **Close other applications** that use bandwidth or resources on your device.
- **For audio issues refresh your browser window** or use your phone by clicking the phone icon at the top of your screen.
- **To disable pop-up alerts from the chat**, click the checkbox at the top of the chat.
- **For mobile devices** turn off notifications in the AnyMeeting Webinars mobile app settings.
- **For live captioning**, closed-captioning and more tips:
<https://home.edweb.net/edweb-tips/>

**Here are some
edWebinar tips...**

Join the edWeb community – it's free!

Join edWeb to access all the recordings, CE quizzes, slides, and resources, and to get your CE certificates.

Join or log in here:

www.edweb.net/edWebArchives

Your CE certificate for this presentation can be downloaded from your edWebinar Transcript page by the end of the next business day.



Join the Early Childhood Learning Solutions community to connect with other educators on this topic.

Community members get access to discussions and recordings of past presentations.

Join or log in here:

edweb.net/earlychildhood





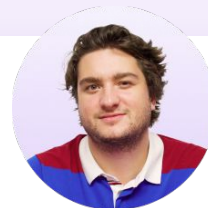
We're so excited to be here!



Adrienne 🧑
acs@family.co

is the Marketing Manager for Family's U.S. market. She is a regular contributor to Family's articles and has interviewed many experts in early childhood all around the world. Her favorite topics to cover include leadership, staff retention, dual language learning, parent engagement and emotional development. More recently, she has dived into the hot topic of AI, what it means for the childcare, its benefits, and its shortfalls.

With a background in psychology, communication, and marketing, she loves supporting the most important part of a person's life: early childhood. You can often find her looking at photos and watching videos of her nieces and nephews.



Owen 😎
opw@family.co

has been with Family's U.S. offices for about three years. As a Product Advisor, Owen is the go-to person on the intersection of childcare and emerging technologies. He's committed to making the digital leap stress free for directors—whether coming from pen and paper or other software. You'll find him presenting and engaging with ECE professionals at conferences around the country.

Owen is from the Northern Virginia area. When he's not working, you can find him at home playing fetch with his English Lab, Joey, hosting poker night, or cheering on any DC sports team.

Agenda –

- **Introduction to Adrienne and Owen**
- **Why AI?:** What's the all fuss about?
- **What is AI and what is it not**
- **Ways to use AI** for your business and in the classroom
- **Questions**
- **A bit about Famly**



Pulse check: Let's take a poll!

//

“AI will transform many industries. The ones that have the largest amounts of data, like healthcare and **education**, are going to be **transformed the most**. AI will help democratize knowledge and make **powerful tools accessible to everyone**.”

Andrew Ng

Founder, DeepLearning.AI

What is AI?

Straight out of sci-fi to a center near you...
we explain what AI really is

You're hearing it everywhere - AI this, AI that. It's on your newsfeed, in conversations, on the news. Some people are calling it the biggest shift since the internet, others are nervous about losing their jobs, and others are quoting sci-fi movies about robots taking over.

So let's start at the beginning - no technical jargon, no conspiracies - just the facts.

AI is an umbrella term for technology with the ability to 'think' and learn independently.

This means that the technology can complete tasks, make decisions, and improve over time without needing constant instructions or human assistance. But, there are two specific types of AI that we want to highlight: Traditional and Generative AI.





Guess what?



You use AI every day.



You use AI every day.

 Apple's Siri



You use AI every day.

🍏 Apple's Siri

🌳 Amazon's Alexa



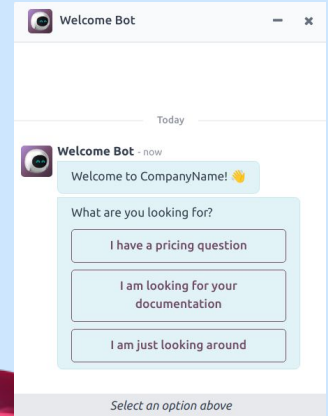
You use AI every day.

- 🍏 Apple's Siri
- 🌳 Amazon's Alexa
- 🦉 Duolingo



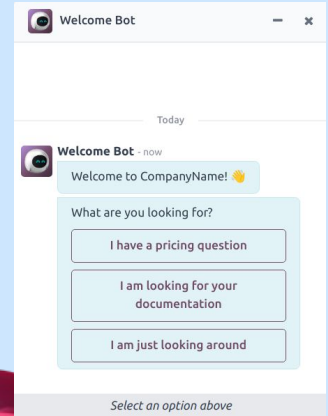
You use AI every day.

- 🍏 Apple's Siri
- 🌳 Amazon's Alexa
- 🦉 Duolingo
- 💬 Customer service chatbots



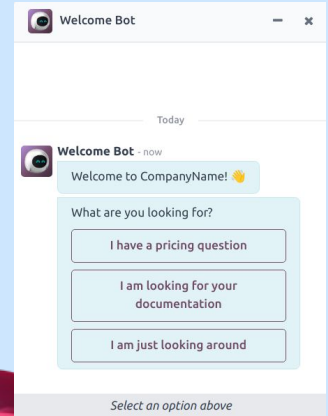
You use AI every day.

- 🍏 Apple's Siri
- 🌳 Amazon's Alexa
- 🦉 Duolingo
- 💬 Customer service chatbots
- 📷 Instagram's recommended posts



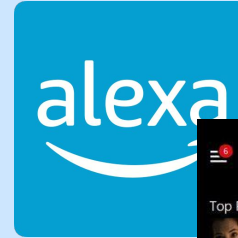
You use AI every day.

- 🍏 Apple's Siri
- 🌳 Amazon's Alexa
- 🦉 Duolingo
- 💬 Customer service chatbots
- 📷 Instagram's recommended posts
- 🏃 Health and fitness tracking watches



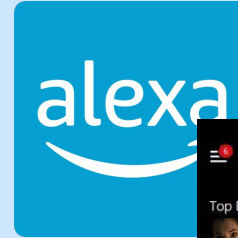
You use AI every day.

- 🍏 Apple's Siri
- 🌳 Amazon's Alexa
- 🦉 Duolingo
- 💬 Customer service chatbots
- 📷 Instagram's recommended posts
- 🏃 Health and fitness tracking watches
- 📺 Netflix's recommended shows and movies



You use AI every day.

- 🍏 Apple's Siri
 - 🌳 Amazon's Alexa
 - 🦉 Duolingo
 - 💬 Customer service chatbots
 - 📷 Instagram's recommended posts
 - 🏃 Health and fitness tracking watches
 - 📺 Netflix's recommended shows and movies
- ...to name just a few



There are two main types of AI

Traditional AI

- Within a set of rules given by a human
- Cannot create anything new, or think outside the lines
- Does what it's told, and does it really, really well
- **Example:** Customer service chatbots

Traditional AI has been around since the **1900s**.

So why is AI suddenly the topic of discussion everywhere?

There are two main types of AI

Traditional AI

- Within a set of rules given by a human
- Cannot create anything new, or think outside the lines
- Does what it's told, and does it really, really well
- **Examples:** Chatbots and Siri or Alexa

Generative AI

- Traditional AI **and...**
- Can create (or generate 😊) new content.
- Can work outside given rules
- Can learn for itself and improve
- **Examples:** ChatGPT and Grammarly

A replacement
for educators

A “set it and
forget it” tool

Perfect

What AI is NOT

A threat to human
interaction

A one-size-fits-all
solution

//

“Human abilities, however, are more expansive. Contrary to AI abilities that are only responsive to the data available, humans have the ability to **imagine, anticipate, feel, and judge changing situations**, which allows them to shift from short-term to long-term concerns. These abilities are **unique to humans** and do not require a steady flow of externally provided data to work as is the case with artificial intelligence.”

David De Cremer and Garry Kasparov
Researchers and Political Activists

A time-saving
assistant

A data-driven
helper

A
communication
enhancer

What AI is

A resource for
personalization

A support for compliance



Have you used AI at your center?

(This is not a hypothetical question, we want to hear from you in the chat!)



**If not, what are
some ways you could
imagine using AI?**

(This is not a hypothetical question, we want to hear from you in the chat!)



Ways to use AI in the classroom

Individualized lesson planning

Platform ▾Why Family? ▾Learning hub ▾PricingLog in(202) 804-2225Get a demo

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Using AI for lesson planning in early childhood education

How to use AI for your preschool lesson planning - without replacing the teacher!

 Adrienne Shannon



JULY 8, 2024READING TIME: 6 MIN.

In a rush? Here's a quick breakdown:

- Artificial intelligence (AI) continues to improve and more than likely, isn't going anywhere. Instead of fearing it, it is important that early childhood educators recognize the potential help and support it can provide.
- AI should never, and can never, replace the personal and emotional connection that a teacher and ECE staff can provide. But, it is important to learn about how it can be helpful in the classroom.
- Below I discuss some of the specific benefits of using AI for lesson planning in early childhood education (ECE), and you will learn exactly how to use ChatGPT to get the activities you want (hint: it's all about the prompt).

Observations & assessments inspiration

Hi! I have written the following learning observation for Sonja,

During an art activity focused on coloring, Sonja held a crayon with a grip that allowed her to control her coloring within the lines of simple shapes, demonstrating fine motor skills appropriate for her age. At one point, she examined the color she was using and repeated the word "blue," indicating early color recognition and language development.

What do you recommend for next steps? I was thinking of doing an activity similar to paint by numbers, where she can practice coloring with multiple crayons. This way she can practice putting down and picking up different crayons, coloring in the lines, and broadening her color recognition and language development.

What else would you suggest?

⊕ Your idea of a "paint by numbers" activity sounds fantastic! It's a great way to build on Sonja's skills in a structured yet creative way. Here are some additional suggestions to support her development:

1. Tactile Color Exploration

- **Activity:** Provide Sonja with different textured materials (e.g., felt, sandpaper, smooth plastic) to paint or color, using crayons or finger paints. Label the colors as she explores.
- **Goal:** Enhance her sensory experience while reinforcing color recognition and language.

2. Color Sorting Game

- **Activity:** Create a sorting activity where Sonja matches crayons to colored shapes or objects (e.g., matching a blue crayon to a blue circle).
- **Goal:** Reinforce her understanding of colors and build categorization skills.

3. Story Time with Color Themes

- **Activity:** Read a book with vibrant illustrations, pausing to point out and name colors (e.g., "Can you find something blue on this page?").
- **Goal:** Combine language development with color recognition in a fun and engaging way.

4. Fine Motor Skill Challenges

- **Activity:** Set up a coloring activity with slightly more complex shapes, such as a simple maze or overlapping figures, to encourage precision in her grip and movements.
- **Goal:** Build on her fine motor skills by gradually increasing difficulty.

5. Art with a Twist

- **Activity:** Offer activities like using dot markers or sponge stamps in specific colors.
- **Goal:** Introduce new tools while reinforcing her understanding of colors.

Hiii I have written the following learning observation for Sonja,

During an art activity focused on coloring, Sonja held a crayon with a grip that allowed her to control her coloring within the lines of simple shapes, demonstrating fine motor skills appropriate for her age. At one point, she examined the color she was using and repeated the word "blue," indicating early color recognition and language development.

What do you recommend for next steps? I was thinking of doing an activity similar to paint by numbers, where she can practice coloring with multiple crayons. This way she can practice putting down and picking up different crayons, coloring in the lines, and broadening her color recognition and language development.

What else would you suggest?



Your idea of a "paint by numbers" activity sounds fantastic! It's a great way to build on Sonja's skills in a structured yet creative way. Here are some additional suggestions to support her development:

1. Tactile Color Exploration

- **Activity:** Provide Sonja with different textured materials (e.g., felt, sandpaper, smooth plastic) to paint or color, using crayons or finger paints. Label the colors as she explores.
- **Goal:** Enhance her sensory experience while reinforcing color recognition and language.

2. Color Sorting Game

- **Activity:** Create a sorting activity where Sonja matches crayons to colored shapes or objects (e.g., matching a blue crayon to a blue circle).
- **Goal:** Reinforce her understanding of colors and build categorization skills.

3. Story Time with Color Themes

- **Activity:** Read a book with vibrant illustrations, pausing to point out and name colors (e.g., "Can you find something blue on this page?").
- **Goal:** Combine language development with color recognition in a fun and engaging way.

4. Fine Motor Skill Challenges

- **Activity:** Set up a coloring activity with slightly more complex shapes, such as a simple maze or overlapping figures, to encourage precision in her grip and movements.
- **Goal:** Build on her fine motor skills by gradually increasing difficulty.

5. Art with a Twist

- **Activity:** Offer activities like using dot markers or sponge stamps in specific colors.
- **Goal:** Introduce new tools while reinforcing her understanding of colors.

Patterns & trends in development

A colleague when your colleague isn't
available

...but

Patterns & trends in development

A colleague when your colleague isn't
available

...but make sure to question...

How was the data
collected?

What benchmarks are
being used for
comparison?



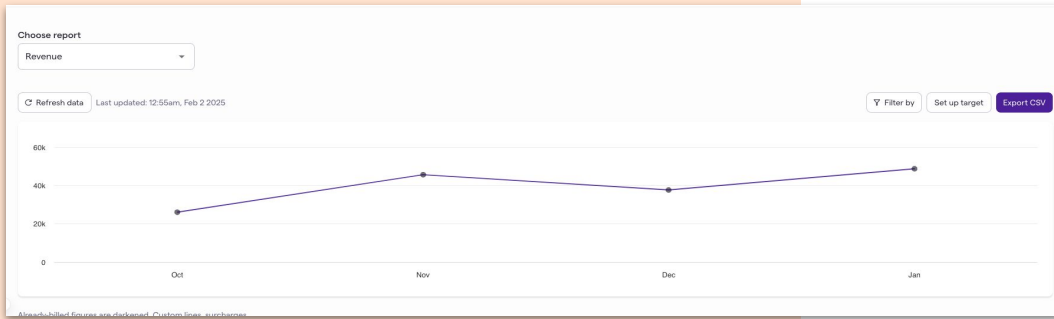
But, don't forget

AI is a powerful tool, but it's **your thoughtful interpretation** that makes it meaningful.



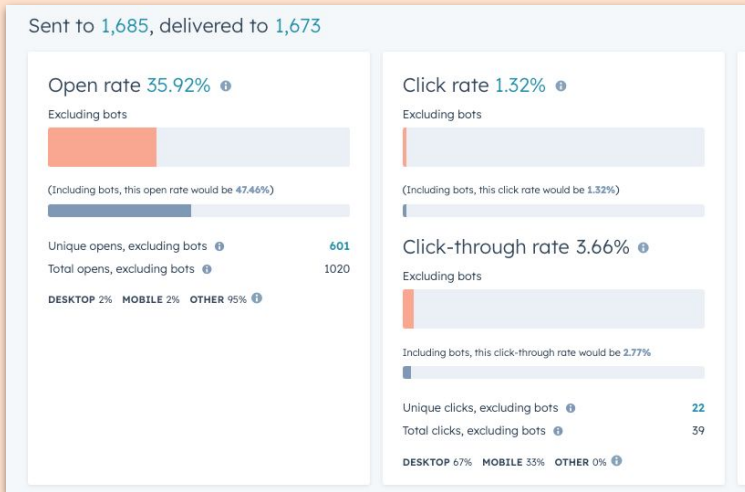
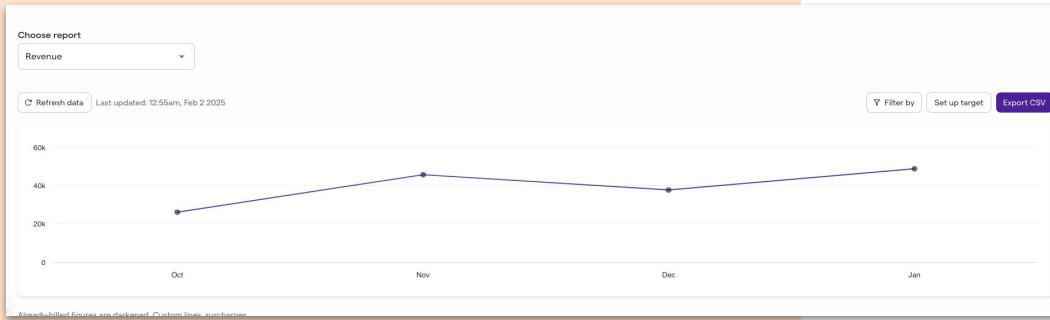
Ways to use AI for your childcare business

Analysis and reporting



Analysis and reporting

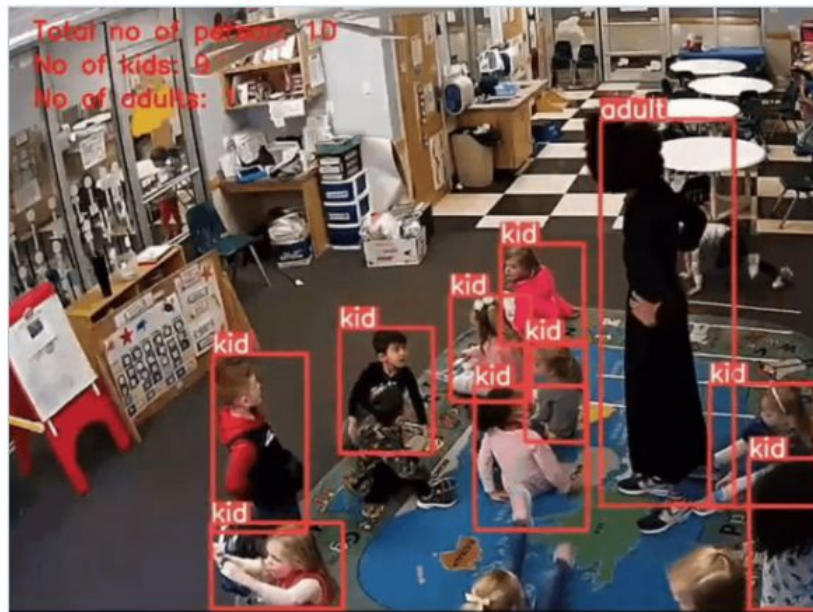
→ No more number crunching for revenue and expenses.



Analysis and reporting

- No more number crunching for revenue and expenses.
- Track engagement of your communication efforts

**Safety and
security like
never before**



**Safety and
security like
never before**

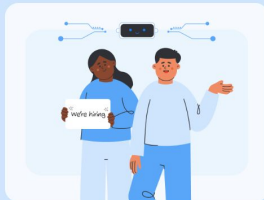
LEADERSHIP

Save time hiring qualified childcare staff with AI

I'll walk you through it, step by step



Adrienne Shannon



FEBRUARY 13, 2025

READING TIME: 6 MIN.

In a rush? Here's a quick breakdown:

- We know that hiring qualified childcare staff is a common struggle. I can't filter through the applicants for you, but I can help save you time.
- Learn how different AI tools can help you streamline your hiring process.
- I'll break it down step-by-step.

We hear it a lot. **Hiring teachers for childcare centers is hard.**

At the end of last year, the team at Family hosted a local event for Directors in Northern Virginia. I spoke with two directors – one who oversaw a center of more than 200 children, and another who ran an at-home childcare center with just 8 children. Despite their different settings, they both shared the same frustration: hiring a preschool teacher (or multiple preschool teachers) can feel like an endless challenge.

Two completely different types of childcare, same challenges and frustrations.

They mentioned issues such as inexperienced teachers frequently using personal cell phones in the classroom, failing to communicate with the Director, showing up late, or even quitting unexpectedly. Another common concern was that many candidates didn't approach childcare as

Hiring qualified staff

**Clear communication
without language
barriers**

//

“I often tell my students not to be misled by the name 'artificial intelligence' – there is **nothing artificial about it**. AI is made by humans, intended to behave by humans, and, ultimately, to impact humans' lives and human society.”

Fei-Fei Li

Co-Director @ Stanford Human-Centered AI Institute

Your key takeaways

You make the whole difference.

Use **common sense** and **protect your data**.

Quality of the output
= quality of the input.

Super-users of AI will take over. AI won't.

Be **critical**.

AI will **never** **replace human interaction**.

AI is a **creative partner**.

Using AI **doesn't diminish your expertise**.



And most importantly...

**AI can never replace the
importance of human connection**

Have we said that enough? because it's true!

Questions?



Adrienne 🧑
Marketing Manager, US

acs@family.co



Owen 🧑
Account Executive

opw@family.co



A bit about Family

We do the dirty work, so you do what you love. And we use AI.

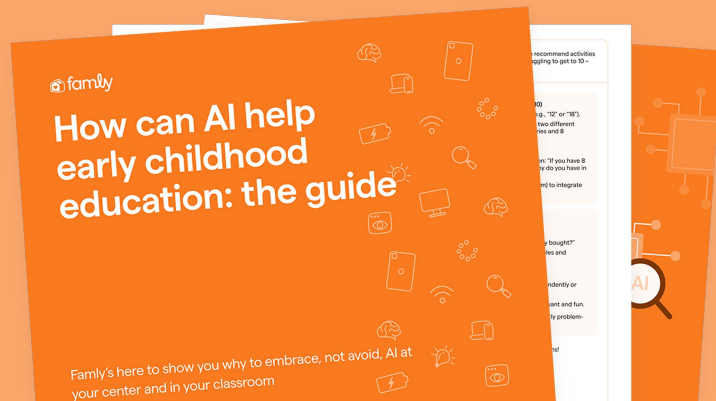
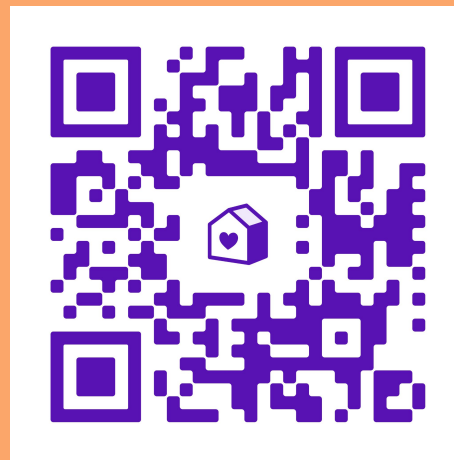


Thank you and let's connect!



 [Owen](#) and [Adrienne](#)

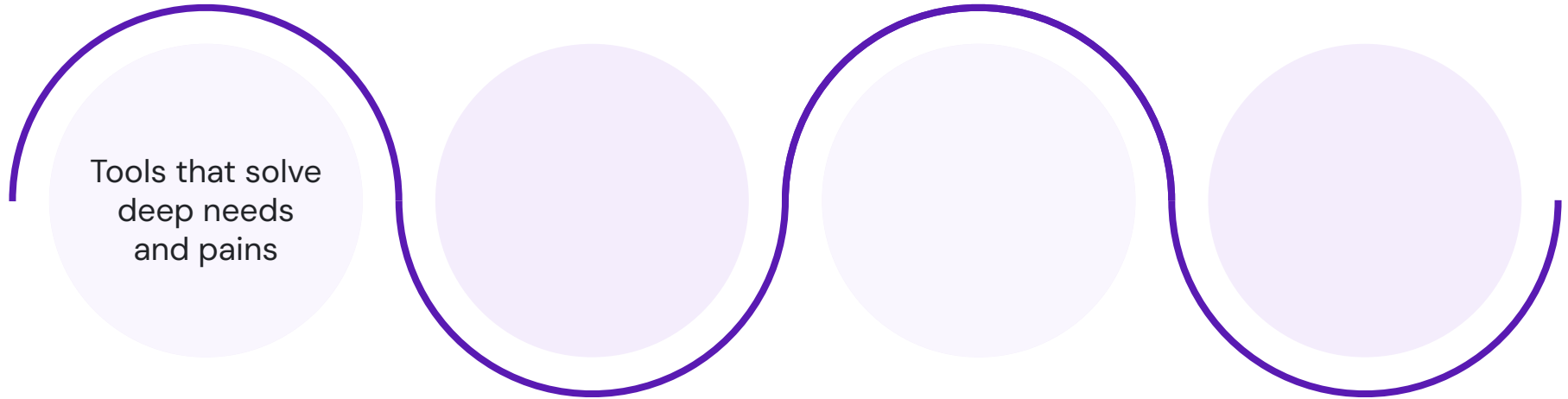
Plus, get
our guide
here!



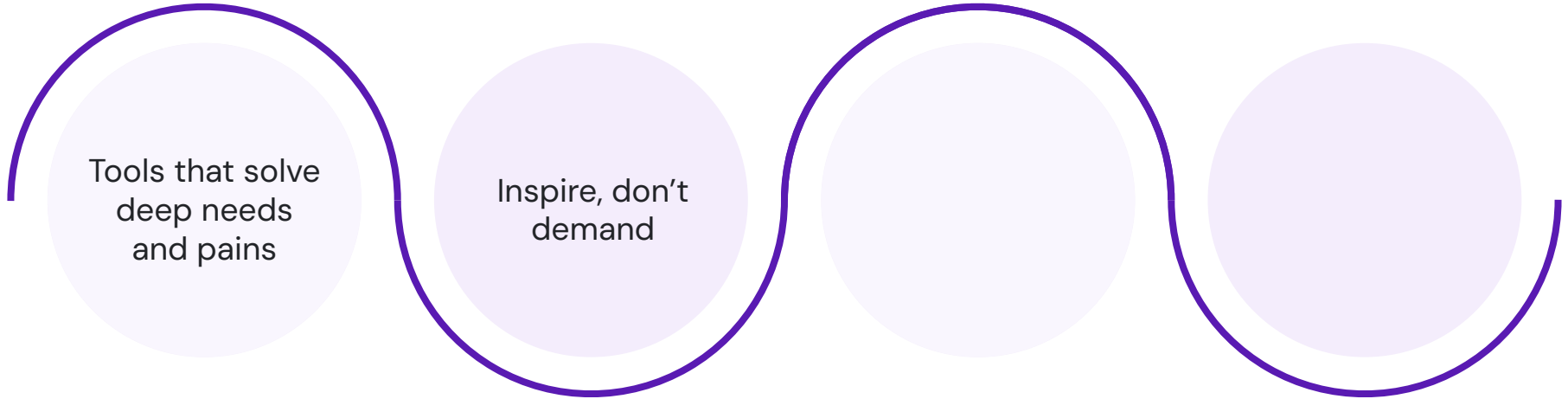


Let's take a poll

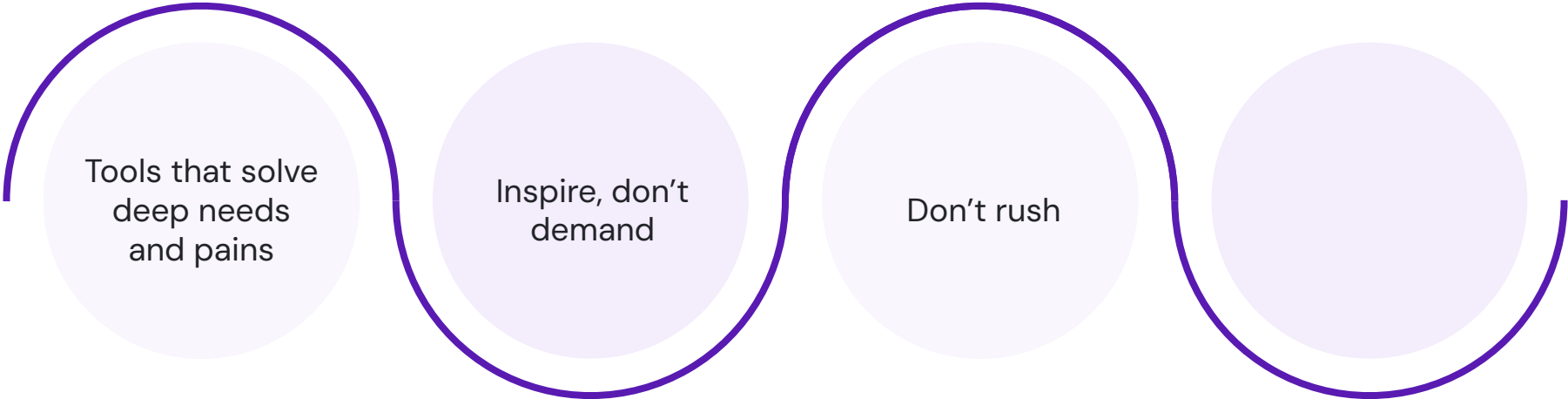
Ethics of using AI



Ethics of using AI



Ethics of using AI

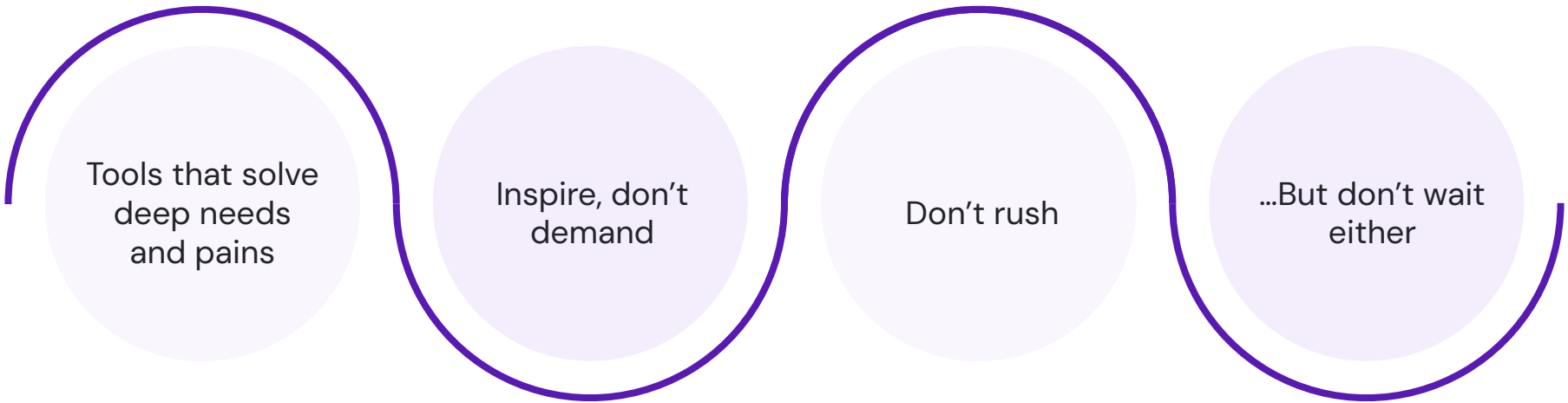


Tools that solve
deep needs
and pains

Inspire, don't
demand

Don't rush

Ethics of using AI

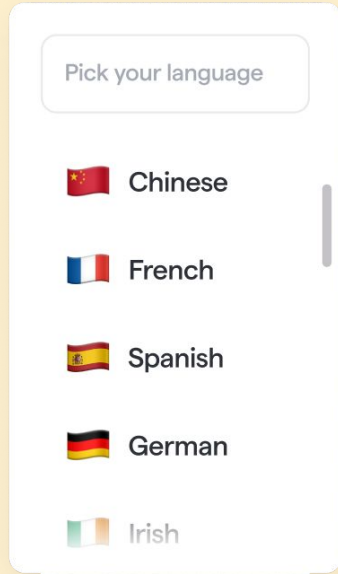


Tools that solve
deep needs
and pains

Inspire, don't
demand

Don't rush

...But don't wait
either



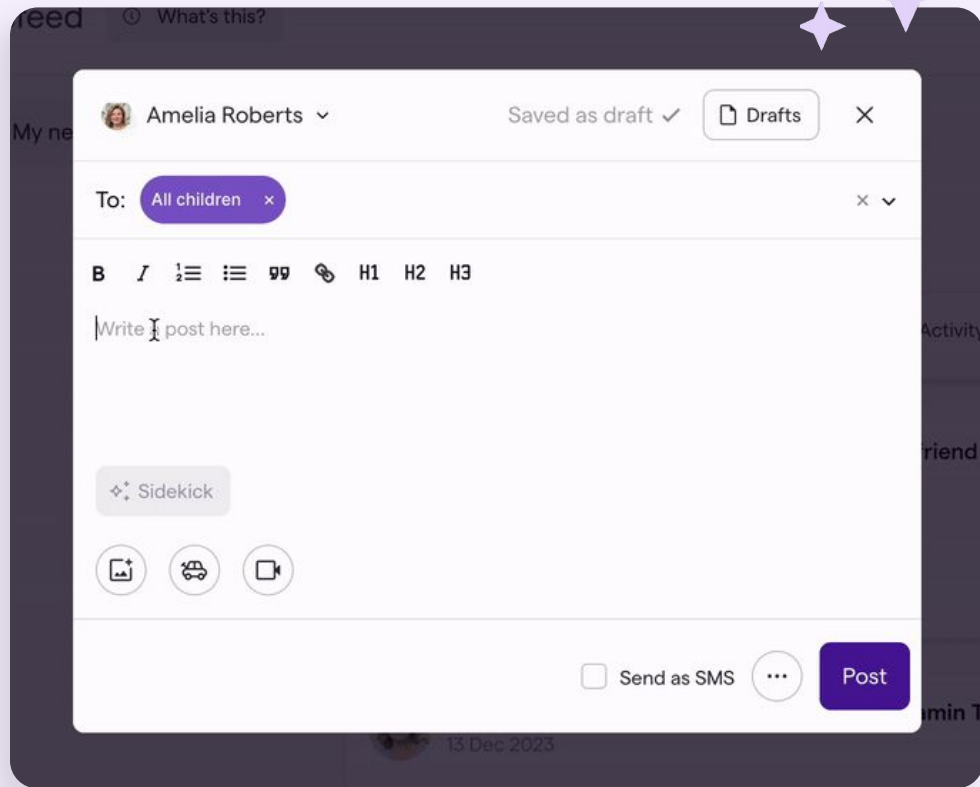
Clear communication without **language barriers**

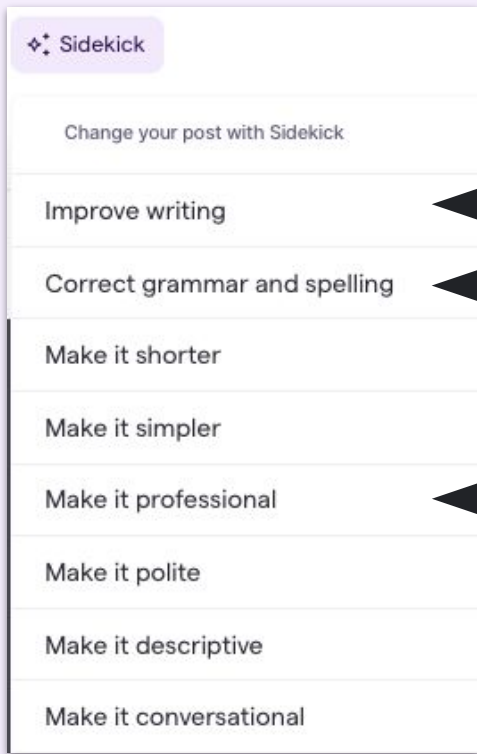
→ ...which brings us to **Sidekick Writing Assistant** and **Live Translation**

Sidekick

Your built-in writing assistant

→ Used **1M+ times** in 2024

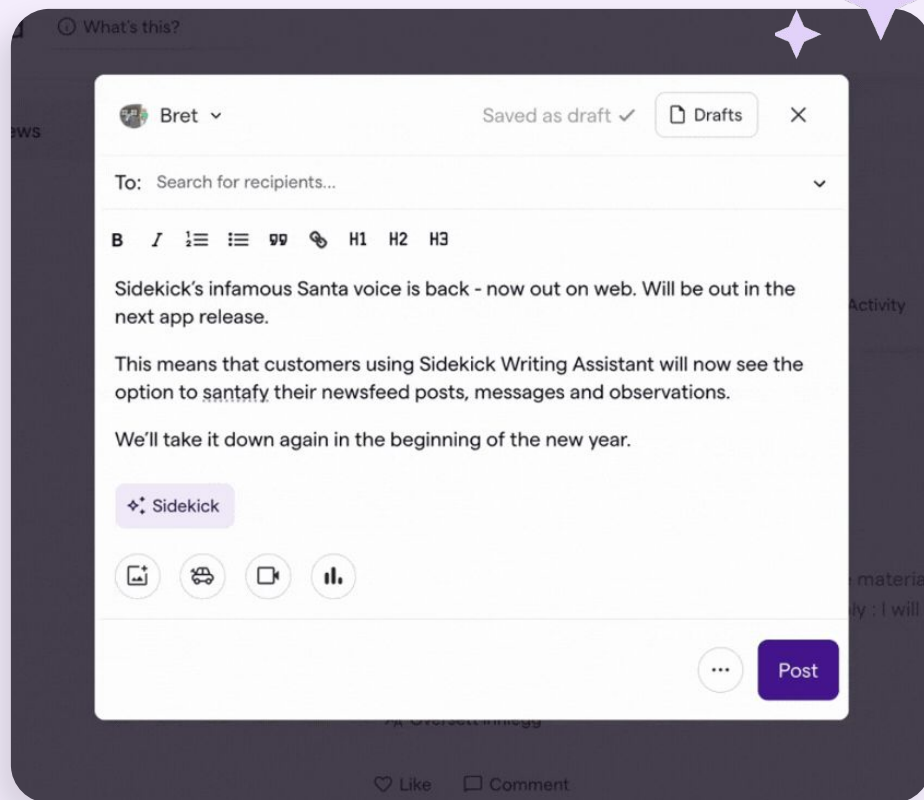




What are the
most popular
Sidekick prompts?

AI can be fun too!

Ho ho ho 🧑🏻‍🎅



Live translation

Bring your multilingual community closer

- Parents can choose from **130+ languages**
- Staff **confidence** and time savings by posting in their primary language

