

PTA PARENT COFFEE • OCTOBER 14, 2026

The future of jobs and education in the age of AI

Our Kids' Jobs *Don't Exist Yet.*

So Which Skills Will Matter?

THIS MORNING

From what's changing at work *to what you can do at home.*



1

**Work is being
rewritten**

Even in the safest careers



2

**Three skills decide
who gets ahead**

Agency, taste, and craft



3

**What families can
do now**

Three takeaways

We trained at ISB, Caltech, Harvard, Brown, and Tsinghua, then did *the jobs AI is now automating*.



Jing Jing Yang

ISB CLASS OF 2019

Has worked with Chinese tech and AI companies on going global since high school

STUDIED



INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF BEIJING
北京顺义国际学校



BROWN



清华大学
Tsinghua University

WORKED



Deloitte.



CICC
中金公司

KIMI



Phillip An

FORBES 30 UNDER 30

*Co-founder and CEO of Skylarq AI
Co-founder and ex-COO of Homebase (raised \$50M+)*

STUDIED

Caltech



HARVARD



清华大学
Tsinghua University

WORKED

Goldman
Sachs

McKinsey&Company

LinkedIn

THE QUESTION BEHIND TODAY'S TALK

When AI can do all of these
in seconds, what must our children *still*
learn to do?

SECTION 1

AI is already changing work, *including the careers families trust most.*

Examples in medicine, law, and finance

1 Work is being rewritten

Even in the safest careers

2 Three skills decide who gets ahead

Agency, taste, and craft

3 What families can do now

Three takeaways

In about half of all jobs, AI is already used for *at least a quarter of the tasks*.

ANTHROPIC

Occupations where AI is used in at least a quarter of tasks

January 2025 report



36%

January 2026 report



49%

Anthropic Economic Index, Jan 15, 2026: share of occupations using AI for at least 25% of their tasks (36% in the January 2025 report). The 2026 figure pools data across reports and reflects how people use Claude, not a census of every worker.

With AI, eye doctors got the diagnosis right *92% of the time. Without it, 75%.*

THE EYEFM TRIAL · NATURE MEDICINE

Patients given the correct diagnosis

Eye doctors without AI



Eye doctors with AI



Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Tsinghua University, and others, Nature Medicine, Aug 28, 2025: 668 patients and 16 eye doctors at one center, retinal screening; correct referrals also rose, from 80.5% to 92.2%

Law students using AI got *34% to 140% more done* on most legal tasks.



Schwarcz, Manning, Prescott, and others, “AI-Powered Lawyering”, 127 law students, 2026; LexisNexis survey of 404 legal professionals in mainland China, via Caixin, Aug 29, 2025; NALP, Class of 2025, Aug 5, 2026, which does not attribute the drop to AI alone

At ICBC, China's biggest bank, AI did work equal to *about 13% of its staff* in 2025.

55,000 person-years

ICBC 

of work done by AI “digital employees”, at a bank with 409,758 staff

7,800 roles

 standard chartered

in corporate functions to go by 2030, replacing what its CEO called “lower-value human capital.”

ICBC 2025 Annual Report, March 27, 2026 (13% is our calculation); Standard Chartered investor event, May 19, 2026: 15% of corporate-function roles; Bill Winters later apologized for the wording

Amazon's CEO said AI will shrink its corporate workforce. *It has since cut about 30,000 roles.*



JUNE 17, 2025



The CEO's memo

AI “will reduce our total corporate workforce”

OCTOBER 28, 2025



14,000

corporate roles cut

JANUARY 28, 2026



16,000

more corporate roles cut

Amazon: Andy Jassy memo, June 17, 2025; workforce memos, Oct 28, 2025 and Jan 28, 2026. Amazon also cited cutting layers of management, and Jassy later said the October cuts were “not even really AI-driven.”

WHO STAYS · FROM THE SAME MEMO, JUNE 2025

“Those who embrace this change,
become conversant in AI ... will be
well-positioned to *have high impact.*”



Andy Jassy, CEO of Amazon

Memo to employees, June 17, 2025

The pay gap is already here: jobs that require AI skills pay *62% more*.

62%

PWC

higher advertised pay for jobs that require AI skills

Comparable jobs



100

AI skills required



162

PwC 2026 Global AI Jobs Barometer, June 15, 2026: average wage premium in job ads across 27 countries; it does not control for education or experience

My last company had about 120 people.
My AI-native company has fewer than five.

BEFORE · CO-FOUNDER AND COO



TechCrunch

Homebase raises \$30M to help more people in Southeast Asia become property owners

Catherine Shu
5:00 PM PST · November 14, 2021

About **120** people across sales, marketing, product, design, and operations

BACKED BY  **Combinator** **Goodwater**  **partech**



NOW · CO-FOUNDER AND CEO



Product

Design

Marketing

Social media

Sales

Once separate hires, now two or three of us using AI.

<5 people on the whole team

Building AI agents that run sales and go-to-market.

If I hire again, I'll only hire people who are AI-native and highly leveraged with AI.

In the most exposed jobs, young people are already *19% behind*.



AGES 22 TO 25

–19%

employment in AI-exposed jobs, against peers their age in less-exposed jobs



EXPERIENCED WORKERS

No gap

in the same AI-exposed jobs

CHINA · 1,333 GRADUATING STUDENTS, MAY 2026

In China, 91% of graduating students changed their job plans because of AI, but *only 57% are learning AI skills.*

CHINA YOUTH DAILY

ADJUSTED JOB PLANS BECAUSE OF AI

91.1%



YET ONLY

ACTIVELY LEARNING AI SKILLS

56.6%



China Youth Daily Social Survey Center and wenjuan.com, survey of 1,333 graduating students, published May 14, 2026

SECTION 2

So three skills now decide who gets ahead: *agency, taste, and craft.*

1 Work is being rewritten
Even in the safest careers

2 Three skills decide who gets ahead
Agency, taste, and craft

3 What families can do now
Three takeaways

AI is making the how cheap: writing code, drafts, *and analysis*.

75%

GOOGLE

of new code is now
drafted by AI, then
approved by engineers

52%

BAIDU

of new code is now
generated by AI, and its
CEO wants 80% to 90%

Sundar Pichai, up from 50% last fall, Google Cloud Next / company blog, April 22, 2026. Robin Li, Baidu World 2025, Nov 13, 2025

So value moves to what to do, *and whether it's good.*

HOW TO DO IT

Write the code

Draft the memo

Run the analysis



WHAT · WHETHER IT'S GOOD

Decide what to build

Judge the output

Lead people and AI

ESSENTIAL NOW · RISING THROUGH 2030



WEF Future of Jobs 2025, Jan 7, 2025, Fig. 3.3 essential now; Fig. 3.4 rising through 2030. Microsoft 2026 Work Trend Index; LinkedIn Skills on the Rise 2026

NAME THE SCARCE SKILLS

Agency chooses, taste judges, *and craft finishes.*

THE THREE SKILLS

01

Agency

Decide what is worth building before anyone assigns it.

02

Taste

Judge whether the output is actually good.

03

Craft

Finish it so people can trust it.

What do *agency, taste, and craft* look like in practice?

BEFORE

*“Just give me
the answer.”*

The homework gets done.
The thinking gets skipped.

AGENCY

Without being asked, builds a practice game with AI for a younger brother stuck on fractions.

TASTE

Tries a few versions and keeps the one he actually wants to play, not the flashiest.

CRAFT

Fixes the questions AI got wrong and the buttons too small for him, until he can play on his own.

WHAT CHILDREN NEED

Skills grow from practice *with structure.*



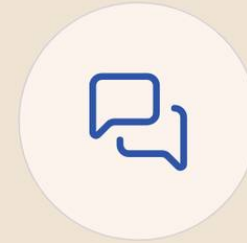
A real project

with something at stake



A coach

who asks how you checked it



Honest feedback

from real people

Studies show most schools still lack teachers ready to teach AI, *so families can help now.*



of schools have too few
teachers ready to teach AI



of teachers lack
confidence in teaching AI

CNAES survey, 3,653 responses across eastern, central, and western China, May–June 2026, published Aug 19, 2026. In the US, 68% of teachers had no school or district training on AI (Gallup and Walton Family Foundation, 2025).

SECTION 3

So start building these skills
now, while the gap is still small.

1 Work is being rewritten

Even in the safest careers

2 Three skills decide who gets ahead

Agency, taste, and craft

3 What families can do now

Three takeaways

Takeaway

1

WHAT FAMILIES CAN DO NOW

Know the latest AI tools,
so you can guide your child.

1 Know the tools

2 Use AI for real tasks

3 The best time to build

Who has heard of these? Behind them, *thousands of new AI models appear every day.*

 Kimi

 Muse

 Instinct

 Manus

 Genspark

 OpenClaw

200+ MORE AI TOOLS YOU COULD TRY TODAY

ChatGPT Claude Gemini DeepSeek Doubao Qwen Yuanbao ERNIE Grok Copilot Meta AI Le Chat Perplexity Poe Character.AI Pi ChatGLM MiniMax Hunyuan Spark Baichuan StepFun Skywork Metaso Felo You.com Phind Consensus Elicit Scite NotebookLM NotionAI Gamma Tome Beautiful.ai Pitch Canva Figma Make Framer Webflow Lovable Bolt v0 Replit Cursor Windsurf GitHub Copilot TRAE Claude Code Codex Devin Tabnine Cody Zed Warp JetBrains AI Amazon Q Gemini CLI Qoder CodeBuddy Comate Kiro Midjourney DALL-E Ideogram Leonardo Firefly Stable Diffusion FLUX Krea Recraft Playground Lovart Dreamina Liblib Kolos Wanxiang Sora Veo Runway Pika Luma Kling Hailuo Vidu PixVerse Seedance HeyGen Synthesia D-ID CapCut Descript OpusClip Captions Hedra Higgsfield InVideo Flow Suno Udio ElevenLabs Murf Speechify Otter Fireflies Granola Whisper Krisp AIVA Comet Dia Atlas Flowith Coze Dify n8n Zapier Make Lindy Relevance AI Gumloop CrewAI LangChain AutoGPT Cue WorkBuddy Fellow AutoGLM Grammarly Jasper Copy.ai Writesonic Sudowrite QuillBot Wordtune DeepL Rytr Lex Mem Reflect Superhuman Motion Reclaim Clockwise Fathom tldv Read AI Tactiq Zoom AI Slack AI Miro AI Whimsical Napkin Glean Raycast Monica Sider MaxAI Merlin HARPA Khanmigo Duolingo Max Quizlet Photomath Brainly Gauth Question.AI Speak Praktika ELSA MagicSchool Brisk Diffit Curipod SchoolAI Squirrel AI Spline Meshy Tripo Uizard Stitch Visily Relume HuggingFace Supabase Firebase Studio AI Studio OpenRouter Ollama LM Studio Jan Julius Llama Gemma Adobe Express Designer Pictory Lumen5 Notta Plaud

HUGGING FACE

The world's largest AI model library

4,386

new AI models published on
Monday, October 12, 2026

About 3 every minute 3.1 million in all

Hugging Face Hub API: 4,386 public models created Oct 12, 2026 (UTC); huggingface.co/models lists 3,145,598. Both checked Oct 13, 2026. Tools: each tool's own site

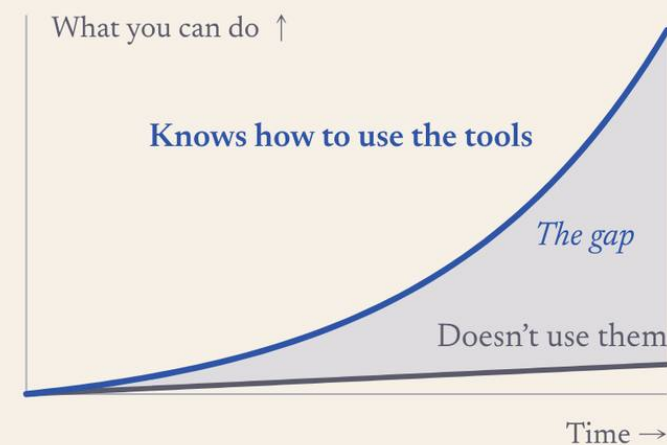
AI's ability doubles about every 7 months, so *knowing how to use it compounds*.

METR · LENGTH OF TASK AI CAN FINISH ALONE



FOR PEOPLE WHO USE IT

Illustration, not data: the gap grows as the tools improve.



METR, Time Horizon 1.1, Jan 29, 2026: doubled about every 7 months. METR data, checked Oct 13, 2026: GPT-4 ~4 min, Claude 3.7 ~1 hour, Claude Opus 4.5 ~4.9 hours, Claude Opus 4.6 ~12 hours. The right panel is an illustration, not data.

Takeaway

2

WHAT FAMILIES CAN DO NOW

Use AI on real tasks with real stakes, *like a school project or a job application.*

1 Know the tools

2 Use AI for real tasks

3 The best time to build

Two months into learning AI, *I applied to Kimi with tools I built.*

WHAT I BUILT

An AI interview prep tool
and a social media tracker

Plus a GitHub portfolio of
things I'd built with AI.



IN THE INTERVIEW

Both tools, shown live
in the interview

My AI skills, and my view of
Kimi and the global market.



LIVE DEMO

[arenaschool.org/
case-study-examples](https://arenaschool.org/case-study-examples)

Both tools are on this site.

KIMI

For a non-technical role, what I had built with AI made the case.

At Kimi, I handed AI the repetitive work *and kept the judgment calls.*

WHAT I KEPT BUILDING

Tools for my own workflow

Built with AI to make my everyday work faster.



HOW I USED THEM

Repetitive tasks, handed off

I chose which parts to handle myself.



WHAT CHANGED

I progressed quickly

First within my team, then across teams.

KIMI

So I could focus on the decisions that mattered.

While still doing growth work, *I was also put in charge of HR.*

Kimi is an AI lab, so it expects more of its people. But it's a preview:

in five to ten years, this is likely what entry-level jobs everywhere will ask for.

THE REASON

Leadership believed the company needed more AI-native employees

Even for non-technical teams in marketing, sales, and product.



WHAT I LOOK FOR FIRST

Real fluency with AI tools

Knowing what to hand to AI, and what to keep.



THEN

Agency, taste, and craft

Used well, AI frees your energy for more creative, impactful work.

KIMI

Companies now value AI fluency, even in roles that don't need technical skills.

Takeaway

3

WHAT FAMILIES CAN DO NOW

Despite all this, it's one of the
best times ever to be a kid,
and the best time to build.

1 Know the tools

2 Use AI for real tasks

3 The best time to build

When we were young, ideas stayed in a notebook. Today a child can *make one real*.

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG

Built by hand, and slowly.

A team, and years of training.

Only the family saw what you made.



TODAY

AI builds a first version in an afternoon.



One child can launch a first version in a week.



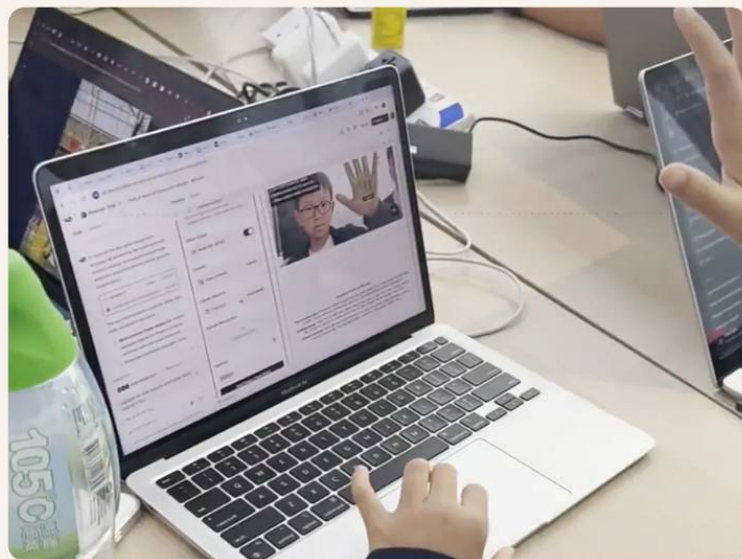
Real users, before they leave school.

Four MIT friends started Cursor in 2022. SpaceX bought it for *\$60 billion*.



Cursor, Series D post, Nov 13, 2025; Reuters, CNBC, and Bloomberg, June 16, 2026; SpaceX Form 8-K and PitchBook, Aug 14, 2026

In five days, an 11-year-old *turned sign language into speech.*



Built in five days by a seventh grader

01 Agency FIND A PROBLEM

He chose sign language to speech because his cousin is deaf. Nobody assigned it.

02 Taste REAL-USER FEEDBACK

He kept improving it after the demo, because his grandmother couldn't use the first version yet.

03 Craft FINISH AND LAUNCH

The hardest part wasn't the AI. It was audio clear enough for her to trust.

AI tools did the building. *He did the choosing, judging, and finishing.*

EXAMPLE TOOLS



IF YOU REMEMBER ONE THING

Work is being rewritten.

Children who choose, judge, and finish with AI will thrive.

1

Work is being rewritten

AI is already used in
about half of all jobs.

2

Three skills matter

Agency, taste, and craft:
choose, judge, and finish.

3

Become AI native

It's never too early,
or too late, to start.

The tools are new for everyone. That makes this the best time to be a kid.

Thank you! *We welcome your questions.*



TODAY'S SLIDES

[arenaschool.org/talks/
2026-10-isb-parent-coffee](https://arenaschool.org/talks/2026-10-isb-parent-coffee)

TOOL WALKTHROUGHS

arenaschool.org/case-study-examples

Step-by-step walkthroughs to open on your own time.