Mapping of Generative AI Impacts on Child Development

Emerging scientific consensus on anticipated benefits and risks



G7 - Call for international scientific contributions on the vulnerabilities created by the use of generative AI among minors

iRAISE
International Research-driven Alliance for AI Serving Every child

A Collaborative Work For Beneficial AI For Children



iRAISE

An initiative by everyone.AI PARIS PEACE FORUM

iRAISE is an international multi-stakeholder coalition launched in February 2025 at the AI Action Summit and co-led by **everyone.AI** and the **Paris Peace Forum**.

The alliance brings together **Governments** (Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Iceland, Luxembourg, Mexico, Norway, Senegal, Togo, Uruguay), **Major company leaders** (OpenAI, Google, Microsoft, Anthropic, Hugging Face), more than 50 **NGOs including Youth Voices** (for example, Children & Screens), and **Researchers** from leading universities (including Harvard, Stanford, Berkeley, and CNRS), with the support of **international organizations** such as UNESCO, UNICRI.

The Coalition's goal is to ensure that AI is designed and governed with children's best interests at its core. By working across disciplines, it accelerates safe, equitable, and child-centered innovation.

Authors

everyone.AI's mission is to anticipate, educate, and evaluate the risks and opportunities of AI for children and young people (0–25), ensuring AI supports their healthy development and well-being.

Grounded in rigorous scientific research, our work focuses on three pillars: **iRAISE,** the international coalition; **Education**, translating neuroscience and AI research into practical guidance for educators, families, and companies; and **AïA Safety Builder**, advancing independent, science-based AI evaluation and measurable accountability to help companies and policymakers build Beneficial AI for Children.

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Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development is an independent nonprofit organization advancing interdisciplinary, **evidence-based research and education on how digital media and technology shape children's development, health, and well-being.** Free from technology industry funding, the Institute convenes international experts and translates research into practical guidance for families, educators, clinicians, and policymakers.

Children and Screens
Institute of Digital Media and Child Development

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This science-informed policy brief responds to the G7 call for international scientific contributions on vulnerabilities created by the use of Generative AI (GenAI) among minors (0–17 years). It maps GenAI use cases across youth age ranges and argues for a governance framework that reflects the developmental needs of children and adolescents. Integrating decades of research on child-technology interaction (including emerging evidence on child and teen interactions with AI) with foundational principles of human development, this brief highlights the **critical reality that GenAI is poised to impact every stage of human cognitive and socioemotional development. G7 countries should lead the world by adopting developmentally-graded AI policies** that reflect and adapt to the evolving scientific understanding of AI's impact on children. Since direct evidence on youth-AI interaction is still emerging, proactive AI governance is necessary, drawing on developmental science, research on youth screen impacts, early findings on GenAI use by young people, structured expert guidance, and international coordination. Youth adoption of GenAI is widespread, often compulsory or increasingly embedded in common tools such as search engines and social media platforms, and outpacing that of adults. Across G7 and non-G7 countries alike, children and adolescents are using GenAI for educational purposes, creativity, information-seeking (including to assist personal decision-making), entertainment, companionship, skill-building, and emotional support. Measuring these use-cases using common methods and nomenclature is described in this brief as a key priority for GenAI governance in child-facing contexts. The current evidence base is fragmented across countries, age bands, definitions of use, and research methods, making it difficult to compare findings or set priorities with confidence. **A shared measurement infrastructure is therefore not only a research need, but a governance prerequisite.**

This brief outlines essential "age-bands" enabling more granular discussions and more targeted action around the risks and benefits of GenAI. It is organized across four developmental periods: 0-3, 3-6, 6-12, and 12-18 years of age. Impacts are mapped specifically to these age-bands in a scientifically-informed manner. Research-derived insights from psychology and neuroscience link specific age-based AI use cases with specific impacts. This mapping is meant to represent a framework that **reflects how developmental stage, use context, interaction pattern, frequency of use, adult mediation, and system design interact to shape risk and benefit. The purpose is not to treat every AI exposure as harmful or beneficial**, but to identify where specific product features and use patterns may support development, where they may substitute for capacities still forming, and where expert consensus is needed to guide appropriate action.

This science-informed policy brief closes with a **five item action agenda**. This agenda includes improving measurement and transparency, defining developmental objectives in a manner reflecting ages and stages of childhood, building a research agenda around these objectives, and establishing international standards for research and best practices within a recurrent framework. It also calls for a standing international process capable of surfacing areas of scientific convergence, disagreement, and uncertainty over time, so that policymakers are not relying on isolated studies, anecdotal harms, or industry self-assessment alone. These recommendations are meant to ensure GenAI is governed not as a monolithic set of computer programs, but rather as a powerful and disruptive technology whose effects on children and teens will depend on age, context, and AI controllability and safeguards. Acknowledging the factors outlined in this brief will allow G7 countries to lead the world in deploying AI thoughtfully, **regulating AI development in a granular and developmentally appropriate way** capable of keeping children safe while expanding their potential.

Credits

This mapping was developed within iRAISE under the scientific direction of everyone.AI, in collaboration with Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development. It reflects a shared effort to bring developmental science, children's rights, and youth digital wellbeing into AI governance.

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Suggested citation

Neugnot-Cerioli, M., Hipp, D. (2026) Mapping of GenAI impacts on child development: Emerging scientific consensus on anticipated benefits and risks. iRAISE

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