

# HomeTalk

Thoughtful Conversations for Families  
and Schools

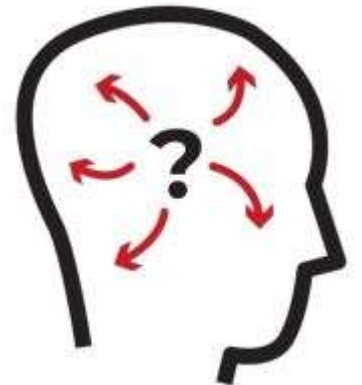
Issue 27 - Robots



**Note to parents/carers and teachers**

This pack contains links to external websites. Whilst we take every care to make sure these are suitable, you may want to check the content before showing them to children

Thinking  
Moves



# This week's focus is robots

I am not a robot. I have a heart and I bleed.



Serena Williams – tennis player

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I make mistakes growing up. I'm not perfect; I'm not a robot.

Justin Bieber – singer/songwriter



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Technological progress has merely provided us with more efficient means for going backwards.

Aldous Huxley – writer



Aldous Huxley, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

## Caring thinking

- Would a robot listen to us in the same way another human does?

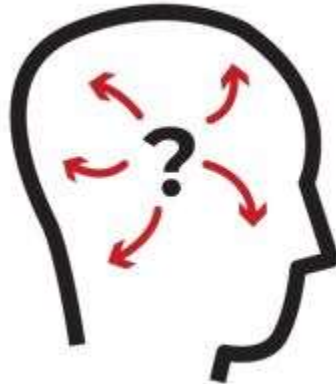


## Collaborative thinking

- Would you work together better with a human or a robot?

## Creative thinking

- Could a robot ever come up with a 'good idea'?



Thinking Moves

## Critical thinking

- What assumptions do we make about robots?



## Think AHEAD

How might the world look in 100 years?



## Think BACK

Have you read any stories, or watched any films, about robots?



## CONNECT

How many ways can you find that humans and robots are alike?



## DIVIDE

How many ways can you find that humans and robots are different?



## LISTEN/LOOK

LOOK around your home. Could a robot be useful there?



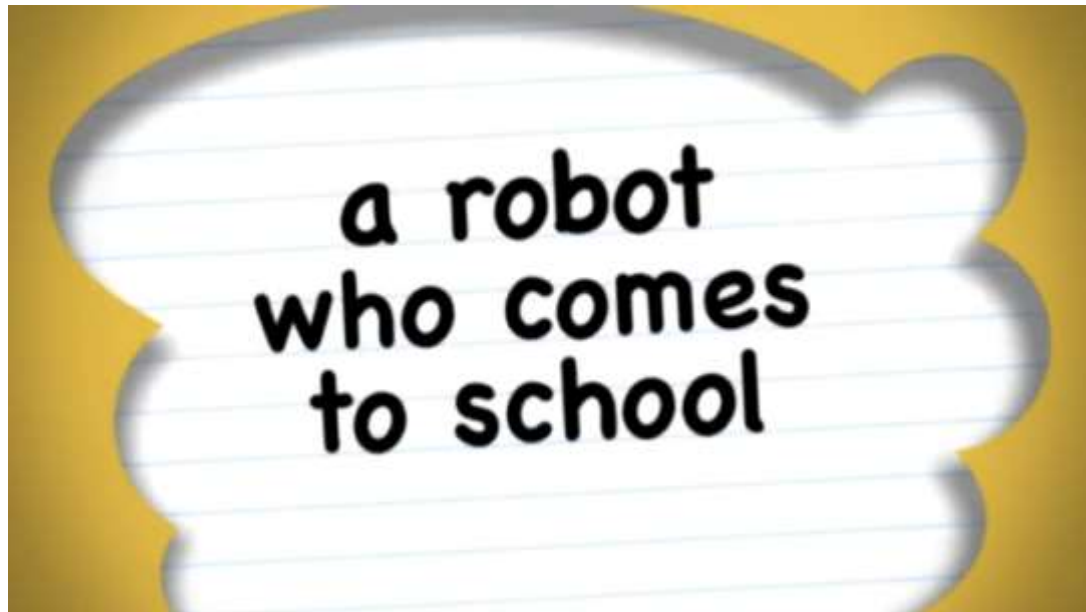
## ZOOM (in/out)

ZOOM in on happiness – could robots be happy?

ZOOM out – should robots have feelings?

# HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For ages 3 – 5 years



<https://vimeo.com/15051587>

**A robot who comes to school** – written and read by **Poppy Pinkster**

Take a look at what happens when the new person at school is a robot.

## Talking Points

- Why were the children happy but the teacher not happy?
- Would a robot teacher be a good idea or a bad idea?
- Would a robot friend be a good idea or a bad idea?
- Would you like to get *everything* right?

## Activity

- Draw or paint your own robot
- Try and make it a friendly robot – how would you do that?
- Ask your friends at school if they would like a robot in their classroom

# HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For ages 6 – 9 years



<https://youtu.be/e9VhTA-TgKM>

**The Robot Dog That Helps With Dementia - BBC Click**

The robot dog that has been designed to help people with dementia in the USA.

## Talking Points

- What were the positives and negatives mentioned in the video about using a robot dog in this way?
- Would a real dog have been better than a robot dog for these patients?
- Should robot pets have names?
- Would it be better if all pets were robot pets?

## Activity

- Make a list of all the reasons why robot animals would be good and another list of why they would be bad
- Don't just include what *you* think. Also include what you think others might think. Ask your family too.
- Which is the strongest reason from each group?



# HomeTalk discussion suggestions

For age 10+ years



0:03 / 1:40

<https://youtu.be/XrSAQoetFOA>

**Sophia 2020** – Hanson Robotics

A look at what the future holds for one of the world's most advanced robots. This short video also shows a range of applications for other Hanson robots.

## Talking Points

- Which of the various uses of robots do you think would be of most benefit?
- Should robots be made to look like humans?
- Sophia is the only robot to have been made a citizen of a country – Saudi Arabia. Should humans have a responsibility to take care of her?
- Should robots have rights?

## Activity

- Research the history of robots. There are many articles and videos on this, such as this one: <https://youtu.be/nlrr5b1XWoY>
- Discuss with friends and family whether robots should do jobs that humans could do

(Think) AHEAD



An activity for everyone

Good idea

Bad idea

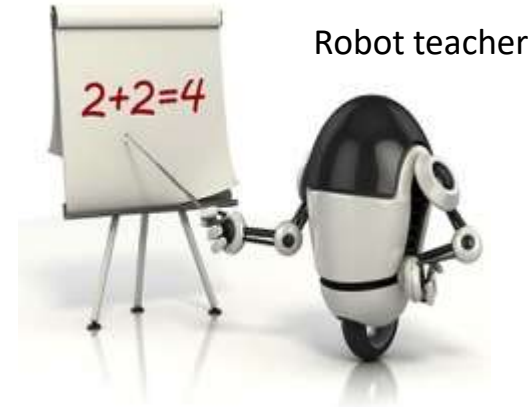
Think AHEAD to the future. Where on the 'Good idea/Bad idea' continuum would you put these robots?



Robot food-server



Robot dentist



Robot teacher



Robot thinker



Robot pet



Robot chess player



Robot doctor



More ideas.....

<https://dialogueworks.co.uk/HomeTalk/>



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#P4C and #thinkingmoves



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