Childhood in the Digital Age

Course trailer

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How is technology changing childhood in the digital age? The media has claimed that digital technology is making children lonelier, fatter, more aggressive and less capable of deep thought but research suggests that it could offer opportunities for children to be happier, better educated and more connected to others.

As a new parent I worry that technology is changing so fast it might outstrip my ability to support my son's learning over the coming years. How can I ensure that he benefits from the advantages of technology but shield him from the dangers? What games should I let him play? How should he communicate with friends? How much screen time is too much and why?

Decades of research in child psychology and childhood studies has helped to find what shapes modern childhood. We'll draw on this research to try and make sense of competing claims made by the media, technology companies and new research in this exciting but controversial area. We'll explore how technology is changing the way that three to fourteen year olds socialise, think, and learn. Are childrens' lives today significantly different from our own, or is technology simply solving old problems in new ways? If you are a parent, a teacher, or simply interested in this past moving debate then get involved in the discussion as we explore the real impact of technology on children in the digital age.