Introduction

- Summer camps improve students' learning, build confidence in AI and STEM fields.
- Facilitators play critical roles in informal learning settings (Owens & Browne, 2021).

Purpose
To explore the interaction dynamics between facilitators and learners in an AI summer camp and provide a theoretical ground for defining and systemizing the roles of facilitators in informal AI learning settings.

Research Questions
1. What are the roles of camp facilitators in informal AI learning settings?
2. How do the facilitators’ roles vary by facilitators and the project phases?

Results & Conclusion

Eight roles: Cognitive Coach (624; 33.8%), Guide (288, 15.6%), Task Coordinator (247, 13.4%), Motivator (198, 10.7%), Technical Supporter (168, 9.1%), Bridge Builder (126, 6.8%), Safety Net (117, 6.4%), and Project Tester (79, 4.2%).

- Facilitators’ roles differed depending on the group dynamics and the nature of the project phase.
- The portion of guide and motivator decreases; task coordinator and technical supporter increases.
- Researchers and practitioners can be informed by these roles when designing PD for informal AI learning facilitators.

Theories & Methods

- Theoretical framework for facilitators’ role (Owens & Browne, 2021; Wang, 2008)
- A basic interpretive qualitative methodology (Merriam & Grenier, 2019)

References