Teaching Case

Alexa, Teach Me About the Internet of Things!

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Abstract

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a network of objects that can exchange data with other devices also connected to the Internet. One of the most common consumer examples of IoT is home automation, as a variety of smart devices, including doorbells, lightbulbs, thermostats, and refrigerators are now available which users can control remotely using mobile apps or smart speakers. In this hands-on activity, students will apply their basic skills in accessing wireless networks and using mobile devices to connect an Amazon Echo smart speaker to a home network, configure smart plugs to communicate with the Echo, and develop routines to interact with the smart plugs, smartphones, and other smart devices.

Keywords: Internet of Things, Amazon Echo, Automation, Digital Literacy, Active learning

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