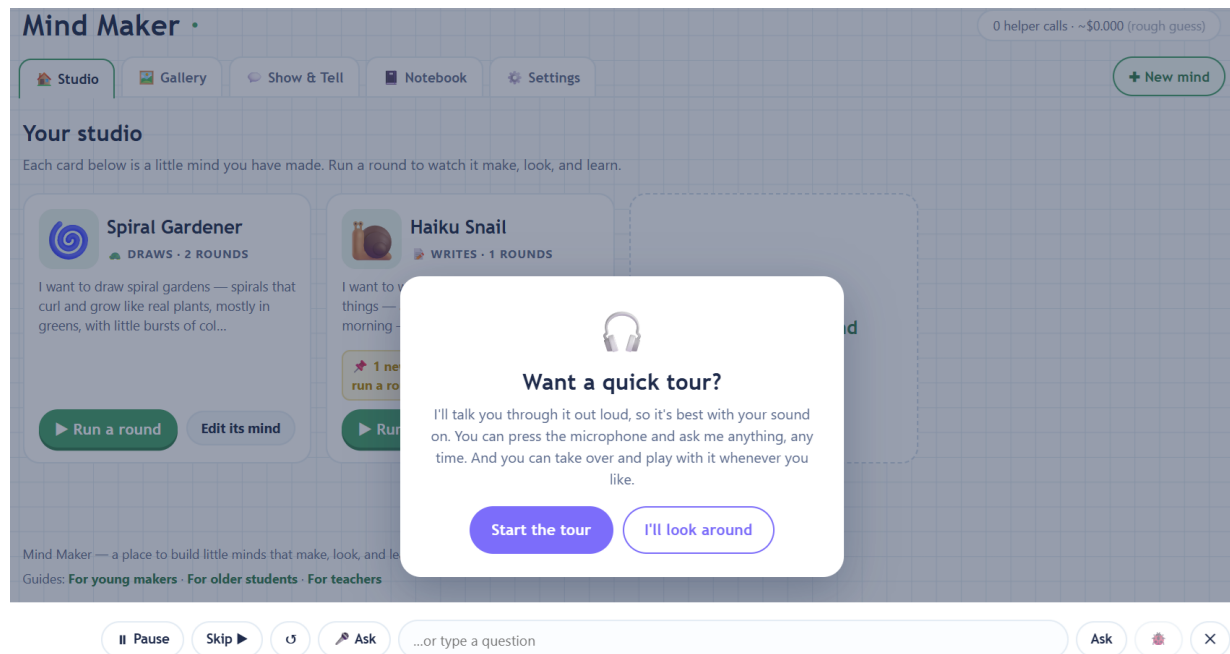


Claude helped me add an interactive guided demo of Mind Maker

Ken Kahn - [home page](#)

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I've been giving software demos for over fifty years. While I enjoy it, I can't give demos to everyone who wants to try out my programs. Yesterday it occurred to me that an LLM could give demos when I can't. So I choose [the 2700-line meta-constructionist construction kit](#) I co-created two weeks ago and [uploaded it to Claude Opus 4.8 and began the chat](#) with:

Can you make an artifact copy of the attached that uses the browser's speech synthesis and recognition to give a live demo of the app. At any point the user can ask questions (if a button click is necessary then so be it). The tone and language should be for young nontechnical users but that should be adjusted based on the content and style of user questions. There should be a pause button. Users can take control of the app and the demo, if resumed, should take into account what the user has done.

The first version Claude created worked well. Then there was a long list of improvements I asked for:

1. Making sure it scrolled the page to the section it is talking about

2. When I asked for a poetry mind demo it continued with a spiral graphics mind
3. Adding a mock cursor that shows what button is selected and clicked
4. Enabling it to run a round and narrate the action
5. Enabling it to run a Show & Tell session
6. Making it explain the settings
7. Ensuring that the narration stays in sync with what the Mind Maker app is doing
8. Making sure that the guide knows all the features of the Mind Maker
9. Ensuring that when the guide does something it doesn't credit the user for doing it
10. Supporting a return to the demo where it starts by demoing those aspects it didn't demo earlier

Here is [a page describing the build process](#) that Claude wrote.

Two versions of the Mind Maker with a guide

Mind Maker grew from 2700 lines to almost 3700 lines with the addition of the AI guide. There are two versions:

1. [A version that requires a Claude account but no API keys](#) (voice input not permitted)
2. [A version where the user needs to supply an API key to either Claude, GPT, or Gemini.](#)

I made [a 5.5 minute YouTube demo of the automated demo](#).

Reflections

A face-to-face demo by someone who is an expert on an app is a great way to learn. The learner can ask questions and steer the demo. But there are typically a lot more learners than experts. LLMs have become capable of doing a decent job of demoing. They respond to questions and will change plans upon request.

Note how LLM agents are playing multiple roles here. The original roles were to power the “mini minds” such as the idea spark, the maker, the critic, and the reflector. Now the guide provides another level of agency.

This proof of concept demonstration of automated software demonstrations demonstrates the promise of adding AI demonstrations to programs. 😊 I plan to try this again with a few other programs soon.

About me



I've been researching AI, creativity, and education for fifty years. I started when working on my phd from the MIT AI lab. Most recently I wrote a book about how anyone can use chatbots to co-create apps, adventures, illustrated stories, and discussions.

[*The Learner's Apprentice: AI and the Amplification of Human Creativity*](#)

In the book I relate many examples of using AI to create apps, stories, debates, and more by interacting with chatbots.

You can follow me on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Threads](#), or [BlueSky](#).