But conducting co-design sessions with children is no easy task, and a good amount of preparation and knowledge must go into such sessions. To learn how to do co-design with children, you must first understand both what co-designing with children in a product development context means and the theory behind this approach to design. The Background Story.  In Druin's paper, “The Role of Children in the Design of New Technology,” [2] she explains the different roles in which you can involve children in a product development process, using the diagram shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1—Alison Druin's roles for children in designing new technologies. This paper suggests a framework for understanding the roles that children can play in the technology design process, particularly in regards to designing technologies that support learning. Each role, user, tester, informant, and design partner has been defined based upon a review of the literature and my lab's own research experiences. This discussion does not suggest that any one role is appropriate for all research or development needs. Instead, by understanding this framework the reader may be able to make more informed decisions about the design processes they choose to use with children in...