The emotion machine

Try programming this robot face!

1. Punch out along the dotted lines, so you’ve got the emotion machine and face with some empty slots in them, plus three strips to slide through the slots.

2. Weave the strips through the slots for the eyebrows, eyes and mouth.

3. Get programming! Moving the strips to different letters will give you different expressions.

Things to try

What combination of letters makes the robot look happy? Can you come up with different expressions for mild happiness and utter joy? How about a series of combinations to make the robot look happy, surprised, then sad?

Create your own new emotions by drawing different eyebrows, eyes and mouths. What expressions would the robot need to do if it were going to be someone’s friend?

Our robot face is based on a real design used in the LIREC research project. To see the real one in action go to www.lirec.eu.