



Microsoft 365
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

Reclaiming Engineering Time with AI in Azure DevOps

From AI assistant to Digital Team Member in the SDLC

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21st April 2026

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50+ hours saved per sprint (2-week)
10-member team



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What This Session Will Cover

A roadmap for the next 40 minutes — from problem → proof → action.

Where engineering time is quietly lost outside the code editor



The Productivity Tax

Turning product intent into execution-ready backlogs at enterprise scale



Product planning with Enterprise AI

Planning and execution workflows powered by native AI agents



Ai in Azure DevOps

Turning time saved into higher-value engineering work



Impact and Re-investment

What this means for your teams going forward



Takeaways

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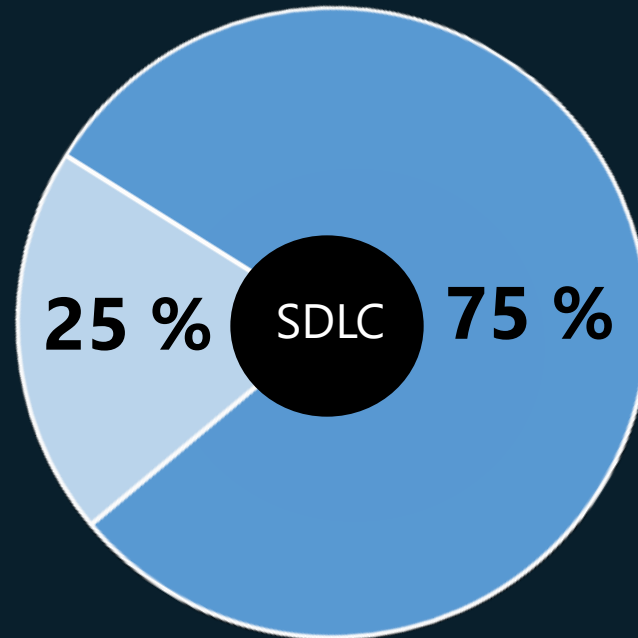
The Why-Now Problem

AI accelerated development , but the rest of the SDLC is still a manual grind that quietly drains your team's capacity.

Development

Engineers now write code faster than ever accelerated by AI

AI copilots handle boilerplate, suggestions, and refactoring at speed



Everything Else

Planning, backlog grooming, and sprint hygiene remain hands-on

Status updates and coordination still require manual effort across teams

Operational dynamics for production-ready code involving security, compliance etc



→ "At present , capacity loss isn't in writing code—it's in everything around the code."

" One day to build with AI. Two days to operationalize it "

Where Engineering Time Quietly Disappears

The biggest productivity tax lives outside the code editor across SDLC — dozens of repeatable, essential tasks that scale linearly with team size.

Writing Work Items

Writing and refining work items from scratch every sprint

Chasing Context

Searching across boards, tabs, wikis, and docs for answers

Backlog Grooming

Backlog grooming and sprint hygiene that never ends

Translating Ideas

Converting high-level ideas into structured specifications

Manual Reporting

Manual reporting and status compilation across projects

Repeated Clarification

Re-explaining context across roles and stakeholders

“The capacity drain moved from “code” to “everything else”. We targeted requirements & planning and reclaimed time compounds across the SDLC ”



Requirements and planning

Development and deployment

Live site and maintenance

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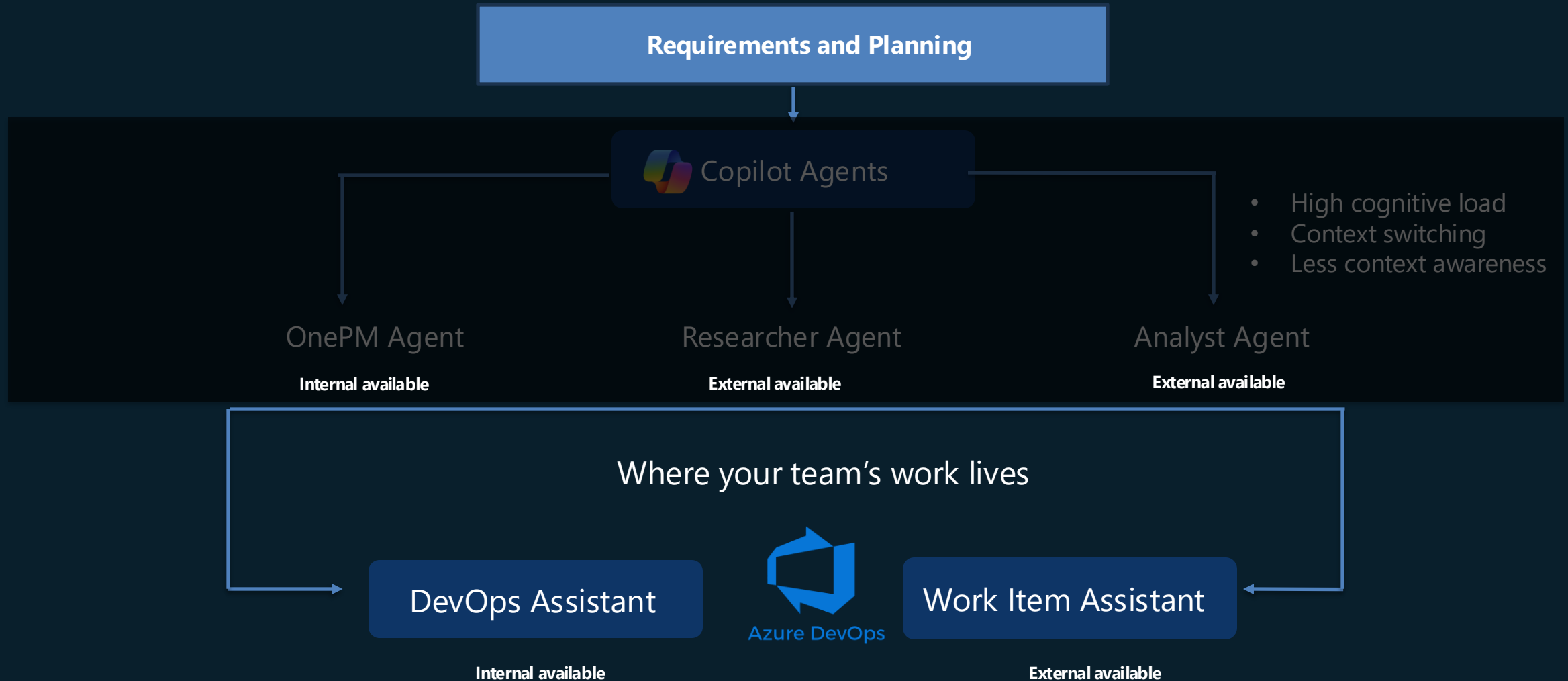
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Product planning with Enterprise AI



“AI in Azure DevOps transforms how we plan, track and deliver complex products and services for Microsoft Enterprise”

The Shift from Assistant to Digital Team Member

The real unlock is not asking AI for assistance — it is having AI show up as a peer that already knows the context and takes action.

AI as Assistant

- Interaction
Reactive and prompt-driven
- Context
Context-free, one-off answers
- Workflow
Requires you to leave your workflow
- Output
"Here is a template."



AI as Digital Team Member

- Interaction
Proactive and context-aware
- Context
Embedded in Azure DevOps, learns from patterns
- Workflow
Takes action within the platform
- Output
"I drafted the work items from the design doc — review and approve."

"This shift changes how teams interact with their tools — AI becomes something you work with, not something you occasionally consult."

Why AI in Azure DevOps Matters

15 K ++

Internal ADO Orgs

140 K ++

Internal MAU

- ✓ Contextual AI Advantage
- ✓ Enhanced Governance and Security
- ✓ Bridging Planning and Execution
- ✓ Operating System for Engineering

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AI in Azure DevOps

AI in ADO



DevOps Assistant

- Natural language
- Conversational
- Multi - agentic
- Multi - surface
- Cross source
- Internal – Dogfooding across Microsoft internal teams only



AI Work Item Assistant

- Embedded
- In-product flow
- Work item focused
- Internal
- External – Available for download and use for MSFT customers



Ask

Understand

Act

- **Discover engineering knowledge**
- **Understand and Manage work items at scale**
- **Operate sprint boards smarter**



Describe

Generate

Refine

- **Create or refine work items**
- **Break down work**
- **Manage scope changes**

Trust, Governance, and Human-in-the-Loop

- 🛡️ **Grounded in live project context** — securely uses confidential ADO data
- 🔒 **Respects existing ADO permissions** — no elevated access, no governance gaps
- 👤 **Human-in-the-loop by design** — AI drafts, humans decide
- 🧩 **Reduces tool sprawl** — Fewer integrations, clearer admin boundaries
- ✅ **Comprehensive evals check of AI-generated responses**



" Responsible AI practices enables trust, governance guardrails and enhanced security "

AI in Azure DevOps Demo

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AI in ADO Impact Metrics

Microsoft Internal

15 K

ADO installs

35 K

Unique users

62 K

Work items
created

16 K

ADO
actions

86 K

Hours saved

Microsoft External

**Work item Assistant (embedded experience)*

2400

Downloads

10.9 K

Unique
users

14 K

Work items
created

Reclamation Signals

Embedding AI directly in Azure DevOps delivers measurable, directional improvements across the engineering metrics that matter.

Time Reclaimed

Meaningful reduction in hours spent on grooming, authoring, and status reporting

Adoption Signal

Strong organic uptake among early adopters with usage growing as teams adopt AI tools

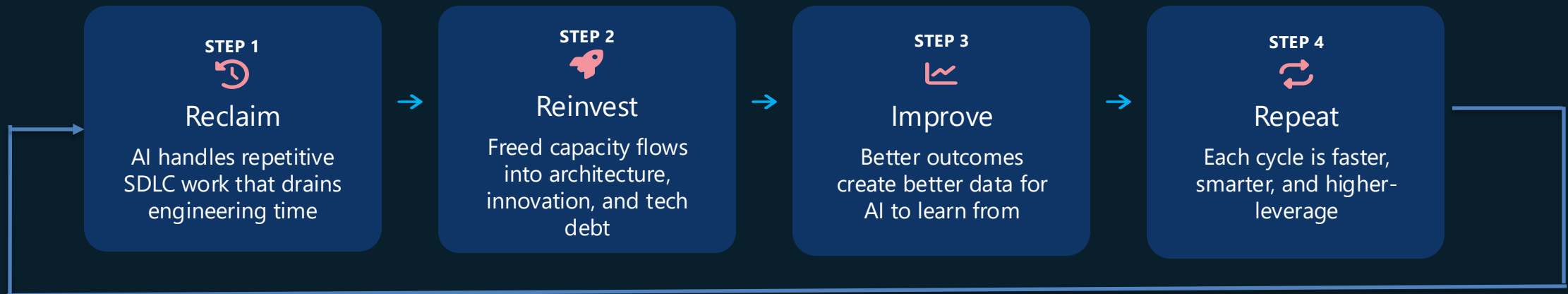
Quality Uplift

AI-assisted artifacts are more complete, consistent, and require fewer revision cycles

Capacity Reinvested

Reclaimed hours redirected toward product delivery acceleration

As an enterprise IT team, we learnt to build the compounding loop



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Your Next Move

Start reclaiming capacity and re-invest— here is how to bring it to your org starting this quarter.

1 

Audit

Map where your team spends non-coding SDLC time today — planning, grooming, coordination. Identify the biggest friction points.

2 

Embed

Enable AI assistants inside Azure DevOps where your team already works. Start with one team, one sprint, one workflow.

3 

Measure and Expand

Track time reclaimed per sprint,.
Observe improvement signals in sprint velocity, learning and adoption of north star DevOps AI tools
Let the flywheel compound.

"The best time to embed AI in your SDLC was yesterday. The second-best time is this sprint."

How can you connect with us?

Explore

Start leveraging AI

[Introducing Researcher and Analyst in Microsoft 365 Copilot | Microsoft 365 Blog](#)

AI in ADO : [AI Work Item Assistant - Visual Studio Marketplace](#)

[Remote Azure DevOps MCP Server | Microsoft Learn](#)

Learn

Enterprise AI Learnings - DevOps Assistant and OnePM agent

For internal :
<https://aka.ms/engagemsd>

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Q&A

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Deliver value and employee satisfaction with our tools for Microsoft 365 Copilot deployment and adoption. This powerful technology combines the power of large language models (LLMs) with your organization's data – all in the flow of work – to turn your words into one of the most powerful productivity tools on the planet.

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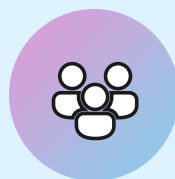
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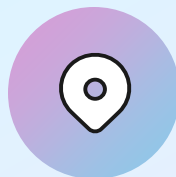
Engage with the best
community in tech...
There's something for
everyone!



Microsoft Tech Community

The community platform for Microsoft 365 –
forums, blogs, and events

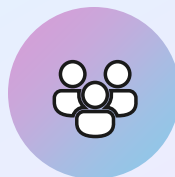
<https://aka.ms/joinMTC>



CommunityDays.org

Find or host a local event in your area
or to match your interests

www.communitydays.org



Microsoft Community on LinkedIn

News, announcements and training delivered to
your news feed

<https://aka.ms/microsoftcommunitylinkedin>



The one stop shop for Microsoft ecosystem community events

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Community Days website interface. At the top left is the logo "Community Days Supporting the Microsoft Community". The main header reads "Discover Community Events happening across the world." Below this is a search bar and filter options. The "WHERE" filter is set to "Global". Under "FILTERS", "Registration Open" is checked, and "Hide Others" is also checked. The main content area features a grid of event cards, each with a unique graphic and event details:

- FABRIC DATA DAYS**: Nov 4 - Dec 11, 2025. Location: Your city, Your country, United States. Format: Hybrid. Cost: Free.
- SMARTCLOUD 365 - 2025**: November 25, 2025. Location: Germany. Format: Virtual. Cost: Free.
- DYNUG AUTUMN CONFERENCE 2025**: November 25 - 26, 2025. Location: Oslo, Gardermoen, Norway. Format: Paid. Cost: 1,311.88.
- SHIFT ENTER SUMMIT 2025**: November 26, 2025. Location: Budapest, Hungary. Format: Paid.
- AI COMMUNITY CONFERENCE - TORONTO 2025**: November 28, 2025. Location: Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Format: Free.
- SEASON OF AI - MCP**: November 28, 2025. Location: Gurgaon, Haryana, India. Format: Hybrid. Cost: Free.
- ESPC25**: December 1 - 4, 2025. Location: Dublin, Dublin 1, Ireland. Format: Paid.
- MSREBUILD 2025**: December 2, 2025. Location: Nantes, Pays de la Loire, France. Format: Free.
- AI COMMUNITY CONFERENCE**: November 28, 2025. Location: Seoul, Jongno District, Seoul, Korea, Republic of. Format: Paid.
- TECHBAYANIHAN 2025**: December 3 - 4, 2025. Location: Manila City, National Capital Region, Philippines. Format: Paid.

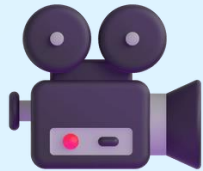
www.communitydays.org



SharePoint at 25 short film: *More than Code*

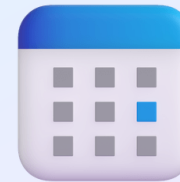
In honor of SharePoint's 25th birthday, *More Than Code* is a short film that explores the people, passion, and innovation behind one of the most transformative platforms in modern work. This film captures the stories of builders, leaders, and community champions who helped shape SharePoint into the knowledge backbone for collaboration, Copilot, and the next generation of agents.

SharePoint is more than code—it's 25 years of connection, innovation and impact.



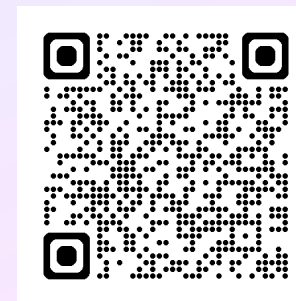
Watch the digital premiere

Stream the documentary online globally in late April and celebrate SharePoint's 25-year journey from anywhere.



Watch the SharePoint at 25 digital event

Prepare for the film with a special digital event featuring insights, stories, and what's next for SharePoint in the era of AI.



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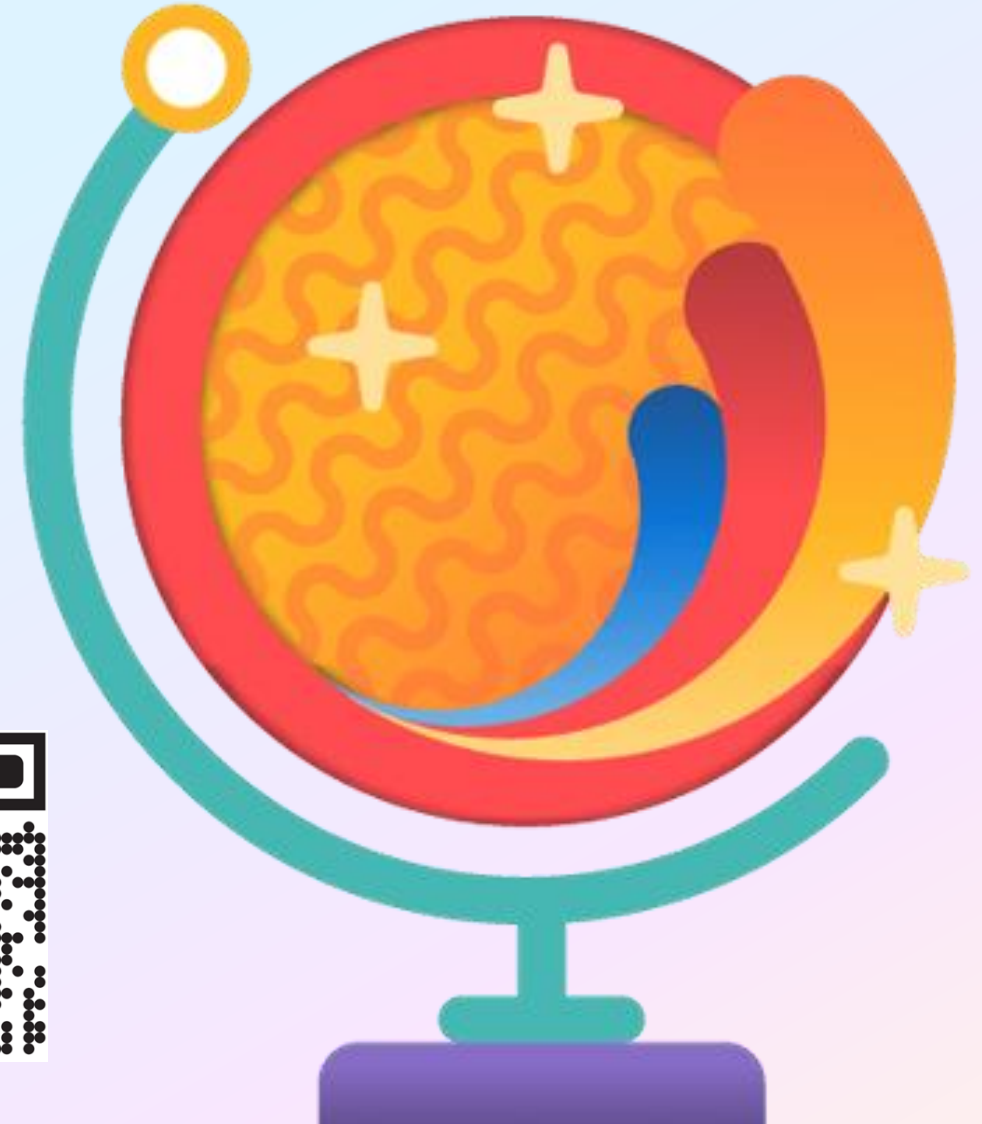
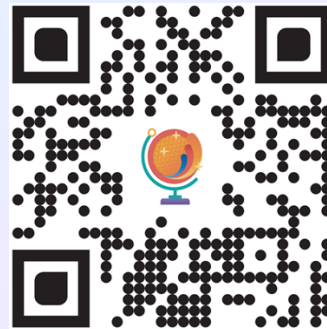
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