# Aila - Oak National Academy AI Tool

Oak National Academy recently released it’s new AI tool, Aila, to support teachers to create lesson resources. The tool can be found at <https://labs.thenational.academy/> and is currently in beta phase, which means it is still being tested and developed by you, the user. As a result, there are still some glitches, but by providing feedback you can help to improve it.

## What does it do?

The tool creates a suite of lesson resources including:

* Lesson plans including lesson outcomes, key terms, misconceptions and prior knowledge.
* Editable slide deck
* Starter and exit quizzes
* Worksheets

It generates content based on your input – initially subject, key stage and title - but crucially the AI system draws on data and content from the large number of lessons in the Oak National library. This ensures that the output is aligned with the English national curriculum and implies a greater level of accuracy and reliability that other large language models. In addition, at every step in the process you can tweak and personalise the output to suit the needs of your learners, for example making the definitions for key words simpler, or adjusting a lesson outcome to reflect prior knowledge.

## Sheffield AI in Education Work Group Reviews

At the October AI work group meeting a number of teachers trialled the tool and discussed the outputs. Below you can see individual teachers’ inputs and notes, but here is a summary of the conversations:

### Opportunities

It was agreed that the tool is fairly simple to use and on the whole the output was accurate and relevant for the specified phase. For an experienced teacher, it would be a useful tool for setting cover work or homework, for pre- and post-learning tasks, or as a starting point for lesson planning.

### Limitations

The group members all felt that the materials were quite dry and quite formulaic. There was a concern about the use of this and similar tools by ITT students and ECTs to plan lessons, which would limit the learning that happens when planning lessons from scratch, whereas experienced teachers could draw on their knowledge to pick out useful parts or refine and improve resources.

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| **Name of Tool - Oak National AI** | |
| **Purpose of tool** | Creating Lesson plans |
| **Age limit** | n/a |
| **Data policy / considerations** | Avoid entering any personal/sensitive data |
| **Accuracy and suitability of outputs** | Comparing it to the capabilities of Chat GPT.   * It creates multiple resources in one place, rather than having to request each one individually on Chat GPT. * I prefer the interaction with Chat GPT. Feels more like an assistant.   Resources come out looking quite bland. However, adding some excitement to these ready-made resources will take less time than creating from scratch. |
| **Sample use - commentary** |  |
| **Suggested impact of tool** | Can help create lessons in a short amount of time. Seems accurate to the national curriculum. |
| **Tip for effective use** | Use the resources for basics but add your own flair. |
| **Any other comments** | I suspect it is not quite intuitive for non tech-savvy people. Although this would apply to all AI tools. |

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| **Name of Tool – OAK AI EXPLORER** | |
| **Purpose of tool** | QUICKLY CREATE SMALL LESSONS/QUIZZES |
| **Age limit** | EYFS to KS4 |
| **Data policy / considerations** | Ensuring content subject knowledge accuracy. |
| **Accuracy and suitability of outputs** | Having used this for the first time, I found this to be an easy to use platform that could be used to create specific learning content  The content it created for pre-learning quizzes, lesson teaching slides and post-learning quizzes was appropriate and accurate with the specific subject knowledge. |
| **Sample use - commentary** | I used an example of KS2 understanding subordinate clauses. |
| **Suggested impact of tool** | Rather than planning for whole class teaching, as it is rather dry, it could be used as part of home learning tasks or specific intervention tasks. |
| **Tip for effective use** | Have clarity with key words. |
| **Any other comments** | This could be used as a tool to create content and then import the information into Notebook LM for it to create a podcast, which would open the learning content up to share more easily with parents.  Additionally, this feature could be used as part of longer term topic knowledge development, to support/supplement knowledge organisers, to inform pupils/parents about upcoming learning.  *Headteacher, Primary School* |

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| **Name of Tool Oak National Academy AI - AILA** | |
| **Purpose of tool** | Create a lesson/series of lessons based on KS1 Geography Location Knowledge |
| **Age limit** | Teacher use |
| **Data policy / considerations** | All material generated from their own materials - therefore no considerations |
| **Accuracy and suitability of outputs** | Seems accurate in terms of subject knowledge - you would hope so being purely teacher generated materials.  Original question was not clear enough and focused on maps and directions rather than the specific elements of location as listed in the National Curriculum.  Materials seem ok - couldn’t get graphics to work but didn’t really put through paces to try to include graphics on Google Slides.  Start & end quiz, vocabulary, misconceptions etc. (and prior knowledge) useful to include in medium term planning |
| **Sample use - commentary** | Create a lesson/series of lessons based on KS1 Geography Location Knowledge |
| **Suggested impact of tool** | Could be good as a starting point and generating some materials. |
| **Tip for effective use** | Could be developed and used as pre-learning or post learning tool - homework revisiting etc. |
| **Any other comments** | Concern over pedagogy - a lesson is NOT always a series of slides and a worksheet (preceded by or followed by a quiz).  Couldn’t get images to download - maybe need to insert own images  *Deputy Head, Primary School* |