



BridgeAI Syllabus

Module 1 Introduction to AI

Interactive Exercise 1 What is Artificial Intelligence and how does AI work? (basic concepts, history, everyday examples)

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**Title:**

The Human Algorithm: Understanding Training Data

Objective:

Participants will physically model how a Machine Learning algorithm works to understand the concepts of "Training Data," "Pattern Recognition," and "Input/Output."

Group Size:

Whole Class or Large Groups (8+ students)

Duration:

20–30 min

Instructions:**Step 1: Setup**

The teacher explains that the class will act as a computer. They are not allowed to "think" like humans; they can only follow rules based on examples. The teacher holds up a "Training Set" of images (e.g., drawings of "Apples" and "Not Apples").

Step 2: Activity

1. The teacher shows an image of a red apple and says "Apple."
2. The teacher shows an image of a green apple and says "Apple."
3. The teacher shows an image of a red ball and says "Not Apple."
4. The students (the Algorithm) must silently identify the *pattern* (Rule: It must be an apple shape; color doesn't matter).





Step 3: Debrief

- The Testing Phase

The teacher shows a new image (e.g., a yellow apple). The class must shout "Apple" or "Not Apple" based only on the pattern they learned.

Challenge: Show a tomato. If the class says "Apple" (because it's red and round), explain that the *Training Data* was insufficient.

- **Step 4: Debrief Questions**
 - "Did you need to know what an 'apple' tastes like to identify the picture?" (No, just visual patterns).
 - "Why did we make mistakes with the tomato?"
 - "How does this relate to how YouTube learns what videos you like?"

Materials Needed:

Printed images (Training Set and Test Set).

Whiteboard to write down the "Rules" the students discover.

Expected Outcome:

- Students grasp that AI does not "know" things; it only recognizes patterns in the data it is shown.

