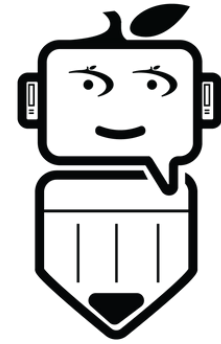


Innovative Uses of Tillie

Missouri State Teachers Association's AI for Educators



Meet
Tillie

1. Curriculum Support & Resource Access

Teachers seek guidance on organizing instructional materials and research-related tasks. Tillie provides structured advice that helps educators enhance teaching materials and improve classroom project management.

Example 1:

1. **Teacher's Request:** Using the example below and the research question, how do I create a literature review table?
2. **Tillie's Response:** To create a literature review table for your research, follow these steps:
 - a. List the sources by author or title in the first column.
 - b. In the next columns, include details like key findings, methodology, and themes.
 - c. Summarize key insights that align with your research question.
 - d. This structure will help you organize relevant literature and make your review comprehensive.

Example 2:

1. **Teacher's Request:** Provide kid-friendly definitions of the following terms: system, prey, environment.
2. **Tillie's Response:** Here are some easy-to-understand definitions of the terms system, prey, and environment:
 - a. A system is a group of parts that work together to do something. Think of a bicycle: it has wheels, pedals, and a chain, and all these parts work together to help you ride. That's a system!
 - b. Prey is an animal that is hunted and eaten by another animal. For example, a rabbit is prey for a fox because the fox hunts and eats rabbits.
 - c. The environment is everything around us, like the air we breathe, the water we drink, the plants, animals, and even the weather. It's the world we live in and all the things that make it special and help us live.

2. Legal and Policy Clarification

Educators frequently seek clarification on Missouri state laws, district policies, and legal guidelines related to their profession. Tillie offers insights based on state regulations, helping teachers navigate the complexities of legal compliance.

Example 1:

1. **Teacher's Request:** Are there laws about paid teacher leave in Missouri?"
2. **Tillie's Response:** In Missouri, teachers are typically entitled to certain leave provisions under their contract or district policies, such as sick leave or personal leave. The specifics may vary by district, so I recommend reviewing your district's teacher handbook for more precise details.

Example 2:

1. **Teacher's Request:** Can you provide any guidance on handling student privacy laws in Missouri?
2. **Tillie's Response:** Yes, Missouri follows federal guidelines under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects student education records. Schools must comply with FERPA regulations, which means student information cannot be shared without parental consent, except in specific cases such as emergencies. Be sure to also check your district's policy.

3. Professional Development & Classroom Strategy

Teachers rely on Tillie to stay up-to-date with Missouri's educational standards and best practices for implementing new instructional methods. Whether it's asking about specific timelines or how to incorporate emerging curricula, Tillie provides valuable support.

Example 1:

1. **Teacher's Request:** Does MSTTA have any reference material on CTE learning standards?
2. **Tillie's Response:** Here are some resources from the Missouri State Department of Education that outline Career and Technical Education (CTE) standards and how they are implemented across various subjects. These resources provide a breakdown of core competencies and guidance on applying these standards in classroom settings.

Example 2:

1. **Teacher's Request:** How can I align my curriculum with the Missouri Learning Standards for 5th-grade math?
2. **Tillie's Response:** To align your curriculum, first review the state's grade-level expectations. Focus on areas such as number operations, fractions, and data interpretation. You can then structure your lessons around these core competencies while incorporating hands-on activities and assessments to measure student understanding.

4. Enhanced Administrative Efficiency

Beyond academic queries, Tillie helps educators manage administrative responsibilities by providing timely information on district policies, deadlines, and state programs. This streamlines their workflow, enabling them to focus more on teaching and less on manual research.

Example 1:

1. **Teacher's Request:** What is the timeline for implementing the new state-mandated literacy program?
2. **Tillie's Response:** The new state-mandated literacy program is set to roll out over the next academic year, starting in the fall. Schools are expected to integrate the program by the end of the first semester, with full compliance required by the following school year.

Example 2:

1. **Teacher's Request:** What are my district's policies regarding teacher evaluations?
2. **Tillie's Response:** Teacher evaluations in Missouri are typically governed by district policies, but most follow a framework set by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Evaluations usually focus on classroom instruction, student outcomes, and professional development efforts. Your district's teacher handbook or website should provide specific guidelines."