

ICOSIEL Local AI Engaging Workbench (LAEW)

Easy to Approach. More to Discover

LAEW is a simple application designed to be approachable for non-technical users while providing enough depth and capability for experienced users who want more from their local AI.

You do not need to be a computer expert to get started. LAEW is designed for easy installation and everyday operation, without requiring lengthy manuals or complex command prompts. Much of what you need is already built into the interface, with this LAEW Quick Start Guide available whenever you want additional guidance.

And there is more to discover. Structured Research provides deeper ways to organize and explore information, while the Full Supporter Edition adds capabilities including LAEW Guide Mode | Playful Learning and Exploration.

Whether you are new to local AI or already experienced with it, LAEW gives you room to explore at your own pace.

Why “LAEW”

The name LAEW carries multiple layers of meaning, both intentional and serendipitous.

In Thai (แล้ว, pronounced “láew”), the word can express several ideas:

- “already” — something that has come into being or been completed
- “and then” — a transition between states or thoughts
- a soft question or confirmation — inviting reflection, such as “right?” or “really?”

These meanings quietly mirror the behavior of the system itself:

LAEW is not static — it moves between what is known, what follows, and what might be reconsidered.

In a broader interpretive sense, LAEW also resonates with the phrase “Lay Aside Every Weight”, evoking the idea of reducing cognitive burden so that thinking, exploration, and understanding can unfold more freely.

Taken together, the name reflects the spirit of the system:

a space where thought is not forced into conclusions too early, but allowed to move, shift, and clarify over time.

"You can do familiar artificial intelligence activities, but privately, locally, and without immediately running into subscriptions, accounts, or cloud dependency."

LAEW is a locally installed workspace designed to provide easy access to open-source AI models you can download freely. It combines privacy, flexibility, and performance in a self-contained application that runs directly on your own computer.

LAEW is built for everyday users, including students, writers, researchers, and developers who want the power of modern AI without surrendering privacy, control, or simplicity.

Engaging with Artificial Intelligence in your local language

LAEW can interact with users in many languages supported by the selected Ollama model. Across the curated LAEW model collection, widely supported languages include English, Chinese, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Japanese, Korean, Arabic, and Russian.

More recent curated models, such as Qwen3 and Qwen3.8, support 29+ native languages, providing broader multilingual capabilities while operating locally without an internet connection.

➡ **Note:** Language capabilities vary between AI models. The LAEW Command Menu and interactive system messages are currently available in English only.

Core Capabilities

Access a wide range of open-source Ollama models for reasoning, mathematics, coding, image analysis, and general conversation. New Ollama models can be installed at any time.

Install, update, and remove Ollama models directly from the LAEW interface.
LAEW AI models can be used entirely offline after model installation, preserving privacy and independence.

In addition to user input prompt, Ollama models can examine uploaded text, CSV, PDF, computer code, image, and conversation audio files.

 Any structured dataset available in an *.ods, *.xlsx, or *.xls file format can be uploaded once saved to *.CSV format.

Supported File Types

- Images: PNG, JPG, JPEG, BMP, GIF
- Audio: WAV, MP3, M4A, OGG, FLAC
- Documents: TXT, CSV, PDF
- Code: PY, PYW, JS, HTML, PHP, CSS, JSON, MD

Minimum System Requirements

LAEW currently runs on computers with Windows 10 or higher. Linux and macOS support are planned for future releases. Performance depends on the AI models selected and the capabilities of the computer.

Minimum: A computer with a 6th-generation Intel Core processor or newer — running 64-bit Windows 10/11, with 32 GB RAM and SSD storage.

Recommended: 32 GB RAM, SSD storage, and an NVIDIA GPU with 8–12 GB of VRAM or more. More VRAM provides greater flexibility when working with larger AI models.

Development Reference: LAEW was fully developed and tested on an NVIDIA RTX 3060 with 12 GB of VRAM.

Free Edition - No registration, No Time Limit

SHORTCUT KEYS AND BUTTONS

CTL-f Toggle between “Insert Oriented Context” and “Clear Oriented Context”

This feature allows the model to present its response according to an “oriented perspective”. You will find some preset examples of oriented contexts in the subfolder “_your_intro_chat_contexts”. You can add your own context version to the existing files and save it in plain text file (*.txt).

As an example: “You are a versatile AI assistant for creative ideation and brainstorming. Generate multiple imaginative solutions for any challenge..”.

Note 1: You can also ask any “Casual Text” Ollama model to help you create a new oriented context introduction prompt suited for your specific need.

Note 2: It is recommended to place your personal “Oriented Context” files inside the “_your_intro_chat_contexts” subfolder for optimal organization of the LAEW file system.

CLT-n Upload a document into the conversation context

Select a document to be integrated into the conversation with the Ollama model. It can be a text, PDF, CSV, image or voice audio file. The loaded document is displayed in the “Preview” window.

User’s Observation: Local models are more specialized and tightly focused than large commercial cloud AI models. Accordingly, they tend to respond better when used selectively (by category type) to achieve specific tasks – see information further down below.

Note 1: *.doc, *.docx, *.odt, *.ods, *.xlsx, and *.xls files can be used as external documents by converting them into text *.txt for document or *.csv file dataset.

CTL-b Remove the document in Preview window and the active conversation

The external document is removed from the conversation. Accordingly, the model will clear its memory of the prior knowledge of that document once that action is done.

CTL-s Clear user input prompt

The input prompt is the window box where the user types prompts to AI model.

CLT-h Capture a text snapshot of the conversation and save it to history

At any point, you can take a text snapshot of the full conversation appearing in the conversation window to save the full conversation to a text file placed in the “_your_chat_history” subfolder.

CTL-j Preview the chat entire text in the local browser

Preview the full conversation in a new tab of the default local browser.

CTL-q Find a word or expression contained anywhere in the conversation

Search tool to detect any occurrence of a searched word or expression appearing in the conversation text. Found occurrences are highlighted in all locations in the text where the expression or word is found. These specific locations can be cycled forward located using shortcut key SHIFT-[Enter] and cycled backward using SHIFT-[Backspace] in that window.

Example of Application: After you get a response from an model, you can quickly search the full chat text to find a word or expression using the Right-Click context menu,

in addition to the ‘Copy’ and ‘Select All’ options to conveniently locate and paste a portion of the text to another document.

CLT-d Clear conversation chat history

Clear AI model memory of any previously existing conversation context.

CTL-g Challenge external AI responses using local specialized model

This command imports an external AI response capture saved as a text file (*.txt) to be challenged by a selected LAEW specialized local model - * proposed to the user as an experimental “exploration” feature.

Note 1: By default, Internet Search is turned ON to allow URL source detection which is a primary step in connection with that exploration. Internet can be turned OFF at any point after that.

Note 2: Combining two or more external AI responses into a single conversation context is possible. However, you need to be aware that conversation history will accumulate word count (also called tokens). Internal memory may eventually encounter limitation prohibiting further model processing. Such eventuality is directly related to your own machine and the selected Ollama model specifications.

CTL-m Display the loaded document to the default internet browser

Displays the content of the preview window to a new tab in the default browser.

CLT-o Open new “Install” or “Remove” Ollama model menu

Allows to “Install” or “Remove” AI models which are the LAEW brains. A window will show up the primary list of recommended Ollama models to select from.

Note: The Ollama model list is “expandable” by the careful user by following the precise guidelines detailed in the “laew_ollama_models.txt” file located in the “_your_curated_ollama_models” subfolder.

The LAEW is designed with “user expandability” as an important principle to allow the technically-oriented user to expand existing curated listing with new Ollama models as they become available. Open-source Ollama models are available at <https://ollama.com/library>.

IMPORTANT: For advance users who would choose to expand the model list found in the Ollama model file, it is recommended not to delete any lines (appending is OK) to

existing list contained in the file “laew_ollama_models.txt”. This will insure LAEW system reliability. ** EDITABLE by the careful users.

CTL-r Voice to Input Prompt “Talk-Back”

The key shortcut works exactly like a “talk-back intermittent switch”: while you press down the CTL-r shortcut key, the LAEW listens to your voice from a connected microphone, transcribes your voice into text and writes it into the input prompt box. The application stops listening once you release the CTL-r key. The Voice Prompt is activated when you click the “Voice Conversation” checkbox option.

✿ You can voice input “Do Step Back {n}” to delete {n} number of characters from the prompt box. Example: “Do Step Back 5”.

[F6] Summarize AI document or the recent AI response

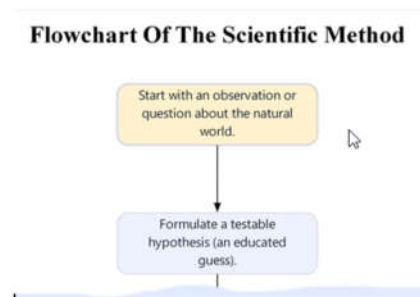
Useful command once a document is loaded in the preview window; works with *.txt, *.csv and *.pdf documents.

Note 1: Typing or Voice inputting “Summarize this text” or a similar expression in the input box will achieve the same result.

Note 2: Once summarized, a replied text may be detected as a “Structured Text”. This format allows to generate Flowchart or Mind Map images by typing: “Create a flowchart of that text” or pressing the shortcut key [F7]. The flowchart image is generated in the preview window. Image can also be magnified by selecting “Zoom Image” action after mouse right-clicking inside the Preview window. All flowchart files are automatically stored in the “_your_created_docs” folder as your personal source documents.

[F7] Draw a flowchart from an existing structured text

Creates an automatic flowchart visual from a text generated by an AI model response.



[Enter] Send input prompt to AI model for reply * conversation mode

While the text cursor is located in the input box, just pressing [Enter] sends the input prompt to the Ollama model to reply. The button equivalent is the “▲ Send” button – see below.

SHFT-[Enter] Insert new line inside the input box and continue writing

While the cursor is in the input prompt box, the command will move the cursor to the next line without sending the input text to the AI model.

[F12] Interrupt a Voice Response | Audio Playback

Right-Click Opens Action Menu ➡ Copy / Paste / Select All / Find.. / Funnel to Browser.. / Play Audio*

Mouse Right-Clicking menu while the mouse cursor is inside either the conversation chat, preview and prompt windows. The “Zoom Image” activated when image is loaded in the preview window. “Funnel to Browser” allows browser to display, and optionally print | save the displayed content. – Important Note: Other useful options may be available by right-clicking in some browsers – subject to your consent and understanding of the providers' published terms and conditions, including their policies regarding personal data handling when internet connection is enabled.

* applies when conversation audio file is loaded

[PageUp] Go to previous page

This command is available when the text cursor is located in the preview, conversion and input prompt windows.

[PageDn] Go to next page

This command is available when the text cursor is located in the preview, conversion and input prompt windows.



Image Preview Shortcuts in Preview Mode

CTL+ Increase magnification scale

CTL- Reduce magnification scale

▣ Checkbox Options

Accumulate conversation	Allows the conversation context to accumulate in history (default)
Open Internet Search	Allows internet access research
Voice Conversation	Enables voice response and voice input * voice input activated by pressing and holding CTL-r / releasing the key pressed to stop voice input
Structured Research**	Enables automatic logging and classification of research results and supported analysis ** “Full Supporter Edition”

⚡ Main Interface Buttons

- ⬆ Send •Send input prompt to AI model for reply
- ⊖ Reset AI Interrupt execution of selected model response
- ⚡ Clear Clear conversation chat history
- 📌 Save Chat Capture a text snapshot of the conversation and save it to history
- + Context Insert ‘Oriented Context’ ⇄ toggling to “— Context” to clear it
- 🧠 Outside AI Challenge external AI responses using local specialized models
- ☑ Models Open new “Install” or “Remove” Ollama AI model

Full Supporter Edition ☆ ☆ ☆

Structured Research Features Development

✧ Structured Research Option

- Matched search article documenting
- Automated summary of imported articles
- Attached URL source reference tagging
- Automatic search keyword generation - quicker filtering and cataloguing in data lookup mode
- URL Source corroboration (GCS) analysis to assist researchers in validating information source credibility

🦉 AI Response Corroboration Score

Generates Global Corroboration Score (GCS) reflecting “likely similarity” of credible independent sources detected in reference to the target local or imported external AI response ➡ valuable feature for serious researchers.

GCS compiles point-of-view’s prevalence without attempting to assert absolute truthfulness.

Note: Requires “Open Internet Search” enabled.

Internet Search Capability Expansion: using service providers’ API key to allow rigorous research work using capable internet search providers such as Brave.com, Google, Bing, etc.

✎ Research Database Main Features

- Single file encrypted memory core database – no server, no data transfer to the internet.
- Automated search log entry
- Optimized structure to facilitate data manipulation such as sorting and filtering
- Export your research database to open-source document at any point for future reference and external storage – The exported *.ods file can be read and edited by the usual general-purpose spreadsheet applications (LibreOffice, MS-Excel, etc.)
- Note: “Save with Password” option (File > Save As) in your spreadsheet application for additional privacy

🏆 Code Structure Inspection

- Dual Pass Code Validation helps review supported code files and suggest possible refinements (PY, PYW, JS, HTML, PHP, CSS, JSON, MD). Load a code file in the preview window, then type or voice input (CTL-r): “Please review and rewrite this code.” and press [Enter].

⊗ LAEW Guide Mode | Playful Learning and Exploration

Learn by exploring. Discover by asking. Reflect on what unfolds.

Hockey Night at Northshore Arena



✧ Guided AI Exploration Space

A guided exploration environment designed to observe how reasoning develops under ambiguity-rich scenarios, where multiple interpretations may coexist before any conclusion is reached.

Guide Mode focuses on thinking in motion rather than immediate resolution, allowing understanding to emerge progressively through interaction.

🏰 What Guide Mode Feels Like

Guide Mode is a curated exploration space where you can:

- examine situations from multiple angles
- explore partial or evolving interpretations
- reflect on reasoning as it unfolds
- gradually move toward clearer understanding when ready

It is designed to feel like a guided workshop for thinking, where curiosity drives the process.

✧ Each theme has no predetermined exploration path. Accordingly, revisiting the same challenge becomes a fresh experience through the explorer's evolving observations and interpretations. Each exploration unfolds as a unique journey through ambiguity-rich environments.

🎵 The Discovery Flow

- The guide may prompt reflection with questions like:
“What do we know so far?” or “What might we be missing?”

- You can respond at any time with thoughts, hypotheses, or interpretations.
 - The system may offer gentle hints or alternative perspectives to broaden the exploration.
 - When appropriate, reasoning becomes more structured and convergent.
 - Each session ends with a short takeaway or synthesized insight.
-



Examples of Exploration Themes

- Reasoning Puzzles
- Creative Challenges
- Text Interpretation
- Visual Understanding
- Mathematical Thinking
- Coding & Structure Analysis



SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVE SHORTCUTS

SHFT-[F5] Corroborate AI response with 3 external sources (internet)

Generating a Global Corroboration Score (GCS) representing “likely similarity” with credible independent internet sources in reference to target Ollama model reply ➡ strong feature for serious researchers. GCS compiles point-of-view’s prevalence without attempting to assert absolute truthfulness.

Note: Requires “Open Internet Search” enabled.

CTL-k Create a spreadsheet copy of the active Research Database

The action creates a copy of the research database at that time at which the command is activated. The new file is placed in the “_your_research_logs” subfolder and saved in open-source *.ods file format viewable and editable using commonly available spreadsheet applications.

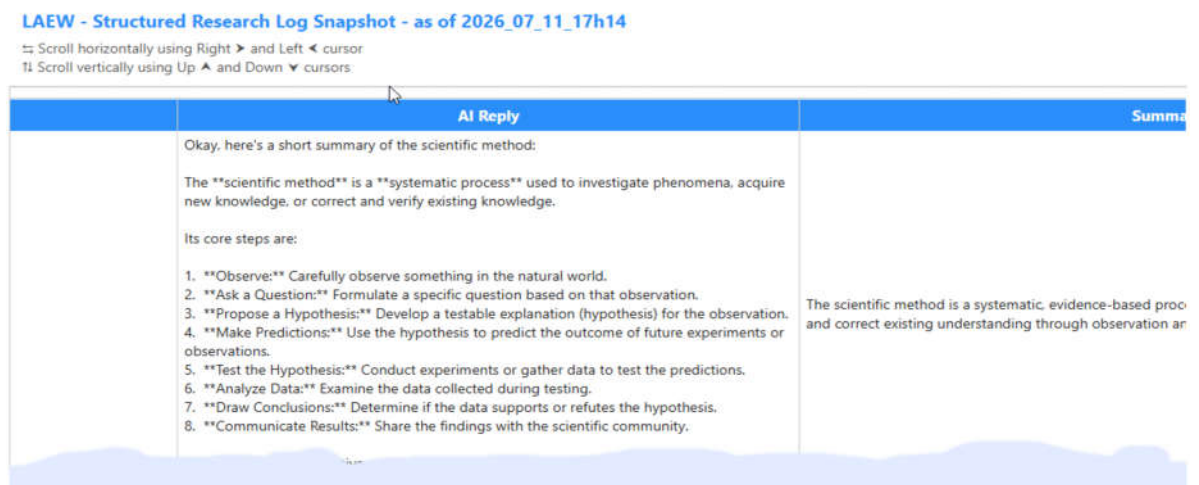
➡ After a spreadsheet copy is created, the research database will be also automatically displayed in your default internet browser for optional inspection.

Note 1: The internal research spreadsheet database is a single encrypted file residing only on your local machine as a LAEW component for privacy.

Note 2: Your research database copies are initially located in the “_your_research_logs” subfolder. There are viewable and editable directly from the “_your_research_logs”.

Note 3: You can move these files to an external storage device such as external hard drive for additional privacy and security. You can also optionally protect access to those documents using spreadsheet file saving password if required.

Browser Preview Example



Note 4: The created copies of the research database are also your “restore points” from which you can rollback your research database at any point – see shortcut below.

Accordingly, it is recommended as a prudent practice to create copies of the research database using CTL-k from time to time to insure data rollback flexibility to previous different restore points of the research database state for later possible consultation.

CLT-SHFT-[F9] Restore research database to a previous state

This command uses a previous stored backup copy of the internal research database saved in the “_your_research_logs” subfolder.

Note 1: This operation is available only if you had previously saved at least one copy of the active research database using the “CTL-k” shortcut key as described above.

Important Note: ⚠ This rollback operation must be performed with careful attention since it will delete all database entries placed after the rollback date point.

SHFT-[F8] Delete a specific line row from the Research Database

This action will delete only a specific data row from the active Research Database in the case you decide that such entry is no longer relevant to your research without impacting the integrity of any other database row.

Note: Once row deletion is confirmed, this process cannot be undone except through a full restore of the research database – see database rollback above.

CTL-t Extended internet search API key | Environment Settings

This command allows extended internet search using specialized search engines outside the LAEW default DuckDuckGo.com default API by entering your assigned API key from a specific internet service provider ex: Brave.com. Etc.

The bottom section of that menu is an experimental feature. It allows GPU VRAM buffer calibration. Its default value is detected while the LAEW is launching for the first time and remains unchanged unless subsequently change is made by the user. Note: This parameter is based on empirical performance tests. Its value is subject to change in later releases.

Supplemental Interface Buttons

→  Search  Extend Internet Search using API keys | VRAM buffer calibration

→  Guide •• Enable Discovery Guided Mode – Scripted Learning Experiences

Intended Use of the LAEW

- LAEW is an Educational and Exploratory AI Workbench designed to assist learning, research, reasoning, and creative investigation.
- Outputs generated by AI models may contain inaccuracies, omissions, biases, or incorrect conclusions.
- Users remain responsible for evaluating information, verifying sources, and exercising appropriate judgment when relying on AI-generated content.
- LAEW is provided as-is without guarantees of specific performance, accuracy, suitability, or fitness for any particular purpose.
- Code review and refinement suggestions depend on the selected local AI model. For best results, use a recommended Ollama coder model from the LAEW supported model list.

APPENDIX

HOW TO INSTALL OLLAMA ON YOUR COMPUTER

What Is Ollama?

Ollama is an open-source local AI engine that allows large language models to run on your own computer.

Instead of sending conversations and files to external cloud services, Ollama enables AI processing to occur locally on your machine, providing greater privacy, control, and independence.

Why LAEW Uses Ollama:

- Local-first operation
- Privacy-focused design
- Works without continuous internet access
- Supports many open AI models
- Simple installation and management

As your exploration grows, you can install additional models directly through the LAEW Model Manager.

7 Easy Steps

1. Visit the official Ollama website

<https://ollama.com/>

2. Verify that your computer meets the minimum system requirements:

- Open the documentation section:

<https://docs.ollama.com/>

- Select your operating system (Windows) * macOS and Linux in future release.

- Review the recommended hardware requirements before proceeding.

3. Download Ollama.

On the Ollama homepage, click the Download button.

Note: Creating an account is not required to download Ollama.

4. Install Ollama.

Run the downloaded installer and follow the installation instructions for your operating system.

5. Launch LAEW.

Open the file:

LAEW_App/LAEW.exe

6. Open the Model Manager.

Click the Models button located near the bottom of the LAEW window.

This opens the Ollama Model Manager where AI models can be installed or removed.

7. Install your first AI model.

Recommended starter models:

- mistral-nemo:latest

AND

- llama3.1:latest

Lightweight alternative for lower-end PC computers:

- phi4-mini:latest

The first installation may take several minutes depending on your internet connection and computer performance.

■ Once installed, models remain available locally and can be used without an internet connection.

FUN PROMPTS TO START WITH

**** Local AI models are more “selective and focused” than large commercial cloud models**

Model | Prompt

llama3.1:latest | Prompt: “How many letter 'i' in the word 'inconvenience'?” ➤ press [Enter]

llava:latest | Select an image file by click the Select File button, then ➤ press [Enter] to get a description of that image – no input prompt is required*

mistral-nemo:latest | Select a PDF or Text file by click the Select File button, then type “Summarize this document”, ➤ press [Enter].

mathstral:7b | Prompt: ”Find the mathematical derivative of $f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 - 2x + 1$ ” ➤ press [Enter].

deepseek-r1:latest | Type “Provide a short summary of the scientific method” ➤ press [Enter], followed by “Create a flowchart of that summary” ➤ press [Enter].

mistral-nemo:latest | Prompt: “Algebra: "Solve for x: $3x + 7 = 2x - 5$. Show each step.” ➤ press [Enter].

llama3.1:latest | Select an audio file of a ‘recorded conversation’ by click the Select File button, then type “do full transcript”, ➤ press [Enter].

mathstral:7b | Prompt: “A baseball bat and a ball cost \$1.10 in total. The bat costs \$1.00 more than the ball. How much does the ball cost?” ➤ press [Enter]. Note: Most AIs initially guess \$0.10; the correct answer is \$0.05.

deepseek-r1:latest | Prompt: “What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps?” ➤ press [Enter].

CURATED OLLAMA MODELS (expandable)

```
# .....
File: "laew_ollama_models.txt" found in "_your_curated_ollama_models" folder
# .....
# -----
# LAEW Ollama User Curated Model Registry    ☒ ** EDITABLE by a careful user by
APPENDING to the model list below in the appropriate [...] category section
# -----
#
# 📖 IMPORTANT NOTES
# NOTE 1: We recommend that you do not delete any line in this file but only APPEND new Ollama
AI models to the list, to insure system stability **.
#
# NOTE 2: MODEL NAMES:
# 1) enter ollama model in lower case 'model_name' with no colon and no extension:
#   ➡ the application will install 'model_name:latest' by default in the LAEW environment.
#   OR
# 2) enter new model full name in lower case 'model_name:_b' where _ is replaced by the model size
ex: 1.5, 3, 7, 8, 9, 14, 24, 70 etc.:
#   ➡ the application will install the exact 'model_name:_b' in the LAEW environment.
#
# Format:
# model_name | capability description | minimum GPU requirement   << The dual '|' separators are
important to parse the line content correctly
# .....

[Reasoning]
llama3.1 | Recommended for general reasoning use | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
deepseek-r1 | General deep chain-of-thought reasoning | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
openbmb/minicpm-v4.5 | Supports fast/deep thinking strategy | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
phi4-mini | Compact ➡ works on low-end machines | GPU ~4+ GB VRAM
mistral | Content generation and fast reasoning | GPU ~4-6+ GB VRAM
dengcao/Qwen3-14B:Q5_K_M | Strong reasoning + /think /no_think tags | GPU ~16+ GB VRAM
deepseek-r1:14b | Higher accuracy complex reasoning | GPU ~16+ GB VRAM

[Coding]
codellama:7b | Solid code generator and reviewer Python | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
codegemma:7b | Lightweight coding model C++, Rust, Go | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
qwen2.5-coder:7b | Superior performance coding JS, Python, PHP, SQL | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
deepseek-coder:6.7b | Solid coding assistant | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM
```

[Math]

mathstral:7b | Compact → works on low-end machines | GPU ~4+ GB VRAM

deepseek-r1:8b | Strong chain-of-thought reasoning | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

qwen2-math | Solid math and logic problem solving | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

wizard-math | Strong reasoning and problem-solving | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

deepseek-r1:14b | Exceptionally good at math | GPU ~16+ GB VRAM

[Vision]

llava | Understands and describes images and text | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

qwen3-vl:8b | Solid understanding of images and text | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

bakllava | Strong at detecting text inside images | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

[Casual_Text]

gemma3:12b | Friendly general conversational model | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

mistral-nemo | Understands long-form documents | GPU ~12+ GB VRAM

qwen3.5:9b | Combined text and image understanding | GPU ~8+ GB VRAM

[Rendering]

No image rendering model available.

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Create a LAEW Enigma

An invitation to create new exploration themes and share them with the LAEW community.

★ *Proposed Creative Challenge*

The Enigma Library available in **Guide Mode** contains immersive exploration scenarios called LAEW Enigmas. Each enigma presents an ambiguity-rich situation that encourages observation, interpretation, reasoning, and discovery.

As a member of this community, you are warmly invited to contribute your own creative ideas for future editions.

<https://www.icosiel.com/invitation.html>