

# Mentor interactions

There are two possible mentor interactions linked to this session. The suggested mentor interaction focuses on breaking complex material and explanations into small steps' and the flexible focus interaction relates to combining verbal explanation and graphical representation.

You and your mentor can choose to do one or both of them depending on your development needs.

## Suggested focus interaction: Breaking complex material and explanations into small steps

In this mentor interaction, your mentor may observe how you have broken new content down into small steps.



### Over to you!

To prepare for this, consider an upcoming explanation that you will teach and plan to break it down into small steps by considering the following questions:

- What knowledge are you assuming the pupils have?
- Why have you chosen the steps that you have? Would it be beneficial to break them down further?
- Even after breaking down the concept, are you introducing too much in one go and risking overloading your pupils? If so, what can you do?

## Flexible focus interaction: Combining verbal explanation and graphical representation

In this mentor interaction, you'll have the opportunity to review and discuss how you combine verbal and graphical representations.



### Over to you!

To prepare for this, you'll use your reflections from the [combining verbal and graphical representations activity](#).

Remember you should have considered:

- Where could you effectively combine a clear verbal explanation and relevant graphical representation to support pupils' understanding?
- How will it support your explanation and reduce the load on the working memory?