

Making Links - Take it steady!

Think about how and when you might:

Stop/avoid:

- Telling students how things are linked together
- Attending to detail at the expense of the bigger picture
- Sacrificing depth in the pursuit of breadth or, worse, coverage!
- Telling them what they did last lesson

Experiment with:

- Blue-sky thinking - focus initially on the big picture, and fill the detail in later
- Encouraging the use of metaphors and analogies

Start/do more of:

- Encouraging students to talk about and explain the connections they notice
- Providing opportunities to sense underlying patterns
- Using a range of similarity/difference activities
- Using mindmaps to encourage students to identify and show how ideas/features interrelate

Start slowly:

- Inviting students to speculate on the intended learning outcomes of lessons
- Exploring how techniques and ideas in one subject can be used elsewhere in the curriculum
- Modelling and commenting on the ways in which people link things together to make sense of something