

Anticipate

Consider how students might mathematically interpret a problem, the array of strategies—both correct and incorrect—that they might use to tackle it, and how those strategies and interpretations might relate to the mathematical concepts, representations, procedures, and practices that you would like the students to learn.

- Solve the problem yourself first. If possible, work with colleagues.
- Ask yourself the following questions:
 - What strategies have students used in the past?
 - What representations are students most likely to use?
 - What incorrect or unproductive strategies are students likely to try?
 - What things might get in the way of students being able to engage with the problem? How can you remove those barriers?
 - What questions will you ask those who struggle?

Monitor

Pay close attention to students' mathematical thinking and solution strategies as they work on the task.

- Create a list of strategies the students may produce.
- Circulate the room. Watch and listen to students as they work.
- If any students use strategies you anticipated, write their name or group number on your list.
- Ask questions that will help students make their thinking visible.
- Ask questions that will help students clarify their thinking.
- Press students to consider aspects of the task to which they need to attend.

Select

Select particular students to share their work with the rest of the class to get specific mathematics into the open for discussion. The selection of particular students and their solutions is guided by the previously anticipated strategies and your assessment of how each approach will contribute to that goal.

- Based on the previously anticipated strategies and the mathematical goal of the activity, decide which student strategies to highlight.
- Select students who will share their work with the class.

Sequence

Make purposeful choices about the order in which students' work is shared to maximize the chances of achieving the mathematical goals for the discussion.

- Based on the mathematical goal, decide on the purpose for the sequence of work. For example: least efficient to most efficient, concrete to abstract, misconceptions to conceptions, or building representations.
- Decide in which order students will present their work.

Connect

Help students draw connections between their solutions and other students' solutions as well as the key mathematical ideas in the lesson. Help students to make judgments about the consequences of different approaches for the range of problems that can be solved, one's likely accuracy and efficiency in solving them, and the kinds of mathematical patterns that can be most easily discerned. Know where you want the discussion to "land" and make choices that are likely to get you there. If necessary, you may have to demonstrate an approach that students didn't come up with themselves.

- As students share, ask questions to elicit and clarify student thinking.
- After each student shares, ask questions to connect it to previously shared work or ask a student to summarize what another student said in their own words.
- Ask students to compare and contrast strategies or representations during the discussion.
- If students did not come up with an approach that you need them to see in order for the discussion to "land," demonstrate this approach and connect it to the work that students did.