① Practice working with algebra tiles on the following questions:

(a) 7 + (–2)

(b) (–5) + 2

(c) (–5) + 6

(d) (–3) + (–3)

(e) 4 + (–4)

> Throughout, focus on your language and actions when communicating the idea of addition (using algebra tiles) to a class. Sometimes practising with someone else, or in a group, can be really helpful.

② Have a play with these questions and think about the leap in thinking for your pupils.

(a) $5 + \square = -3$

(b) $(-2) + \square = -3$

(c) $0 + \square = -3$

③ When working in any area of mathematics, generalising is always desirable. Thinking about the table below, would this help pupils begin to formulate some general ideas around addition of integers?

	Positive	Zero	Negative
positive + positive			
negative + positive			
positive + negative			
negative + negative			

La Salle Education, 121 Kings Cross Road, London, WC1X 9NH
t: 020 8144 4748 e: support@lasalle-education.com w: completemaths.com
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