## The Basics

• Programming is about breaking tasks down into tiny, simple steps, and then communicating those steps to a computer.

## **Some Basic Python Commands**

- print('string')
  - This outputs 'string' to the screen, without quotes. This is an example of a *function call*.
- name = 'Ann'
  - Python grabs a block of RAM, labels it 'name', and gives it the value 'Ann'.
  - If a variable called 'name' already exists, Python will change the value of that one, rather than grabbing a new block of RAM. This is called an assignment statement.
- #
- A '#' symbol defines a line as a comment, which is ignored by the interpreter. Comments are used to explain programs, as they can quickly become unclear as they grow.