



IBM Developer SKILLS NETWORK

Lab 1: Create an instance of Watson Assistant

Objective for Exercise:

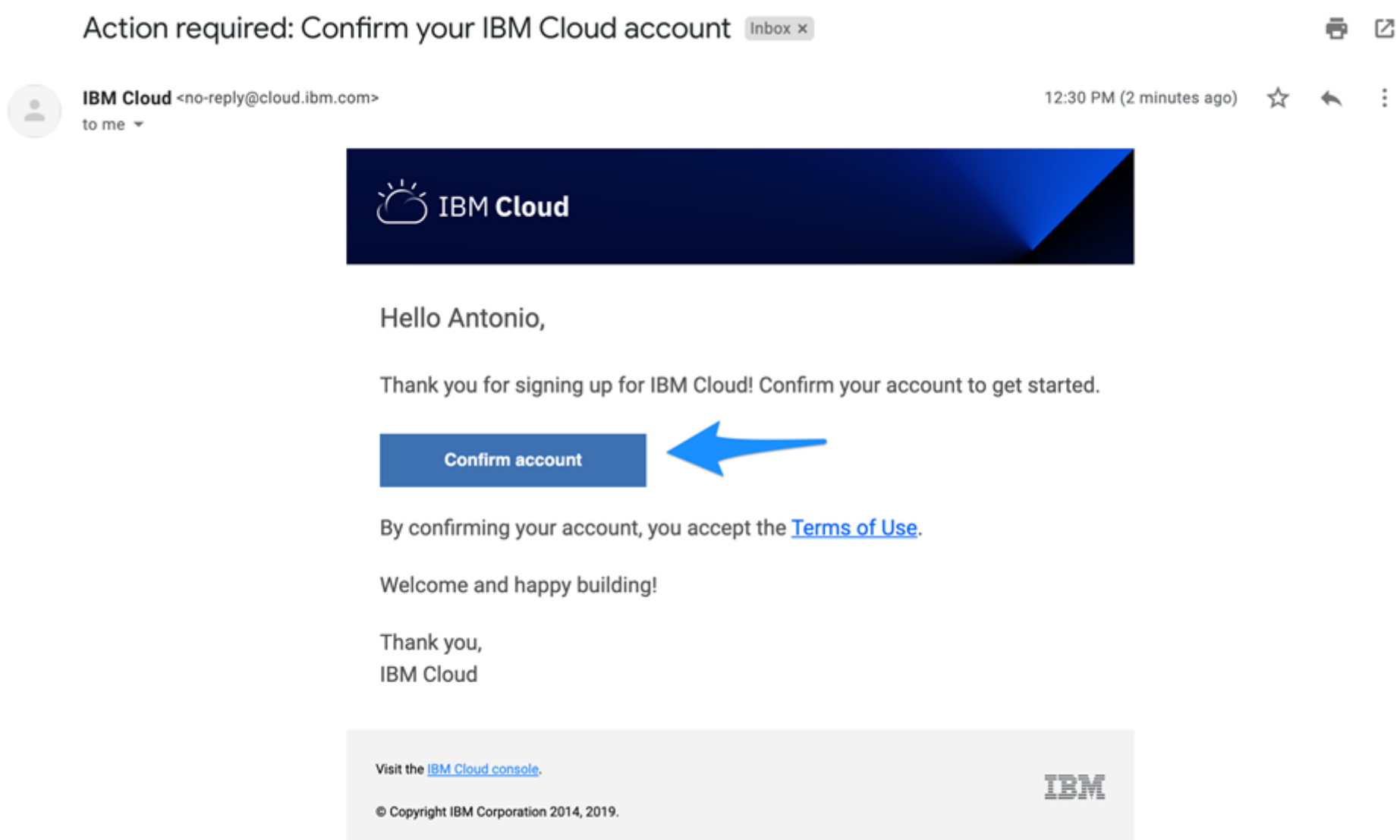
- How to use the Watson Assistant service hosted on the IBM Cloud platform.
- How to create an IBM Cloud account and a Watson Assistant service.

In this course, we'll use the Watson Assistant service hosted on the IBM Cloud platform. As a result, before we progress further, we'll need to ensure that you are set up with an account. Follow the instructions below to get your own instance of Watson Assistant and start building chatbots.

Note: If you already have an IBM Cloud account, simply login and skip to Exercise 2.

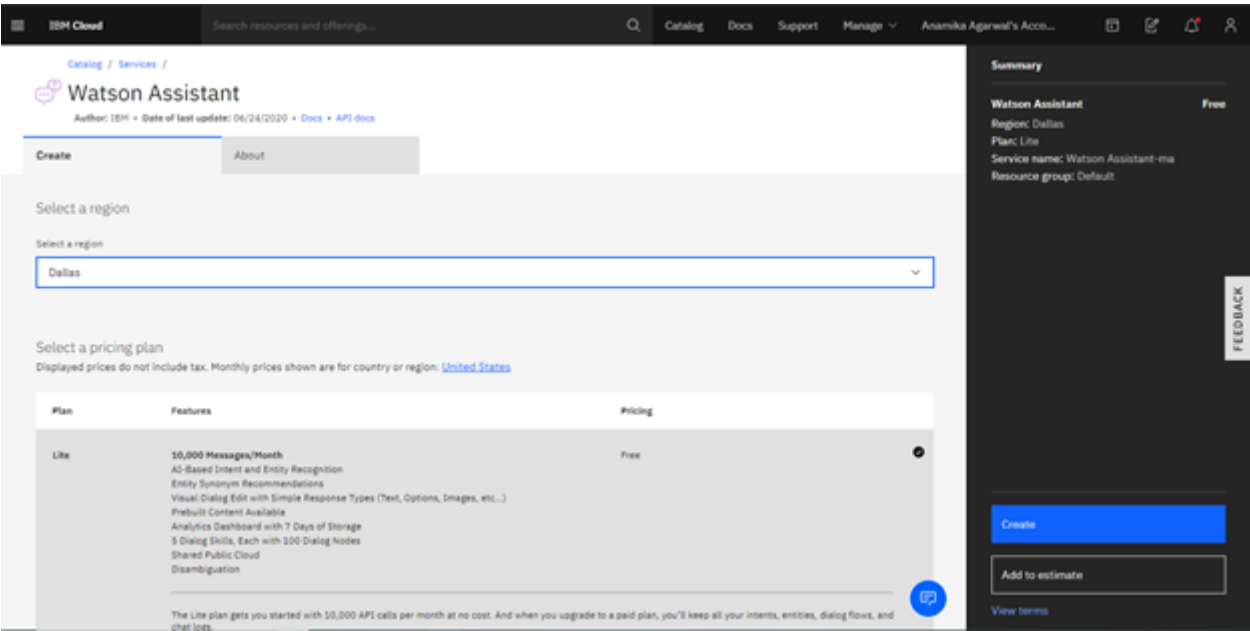
Exercise 1: Register with IBM Cloud

1. **Register** on IBM Cloud by [clicking on this link](#). Start by entering your professional or student email. (If you don't have access to a business email, feel free to use your personal email, however.)
2. You'll be asked to log in if you already have an account with IBM.com. If you do, log in and skip to Exercise 2. If you don't, provide the rest of the information requested (e.g., your name, country, etc.) and **click on Create an account** to proceed with the creation of an account.
3. If you created an account in step 2, you'll be asked to **verify your email**. Check your inbox for the verification email (and for good measure, be sure to check your spam folder as well). **Click on the confirmation button** as illustrated in the image below.



4. Upon successful verification of your email, you'll see a *Log In* button. **Click on it, log in, and accept the privacy notices.** At this point, you'll be logged in with your IBM ID and ready to work with the IBM Cloud platform.

You'll either be redirected to a Watson Assistant creation page (as shown in the image below) or to your IBM Cloud dashboard. In either case, close your browser tab and proceed to Exercise 2 below.

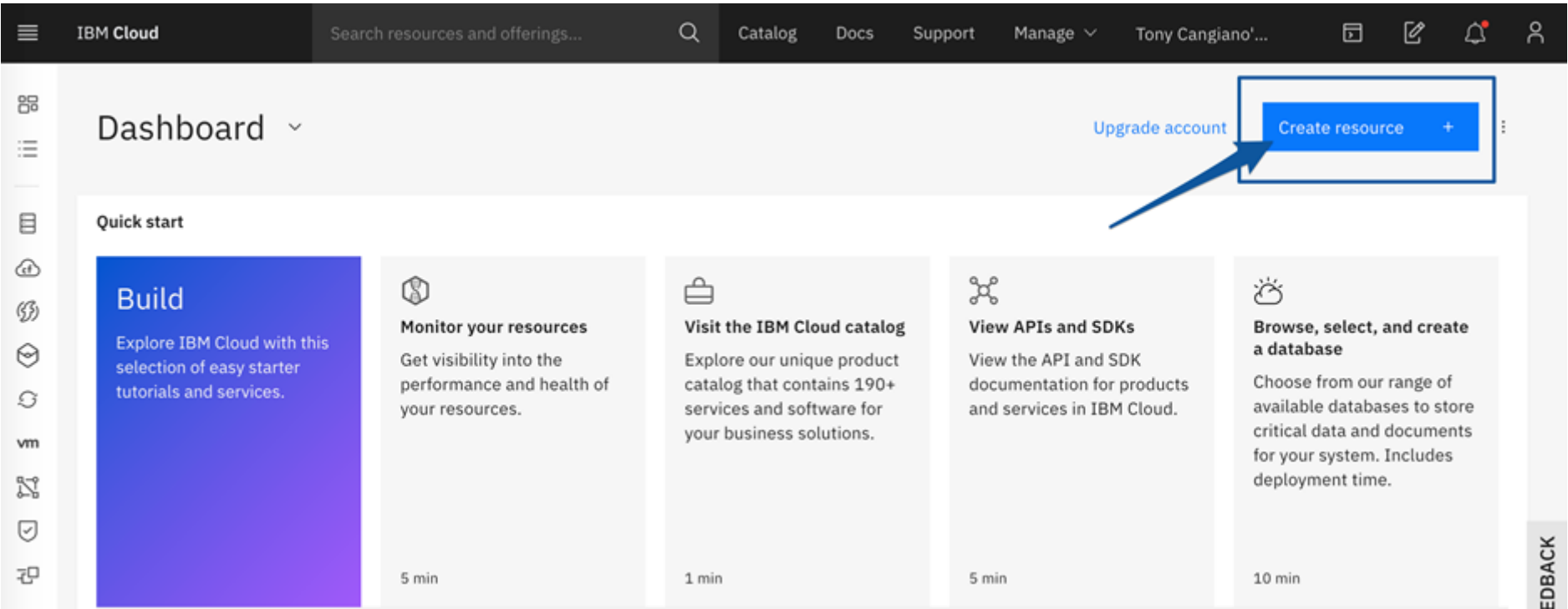


Exercise 2: Create a Watson Assistant service

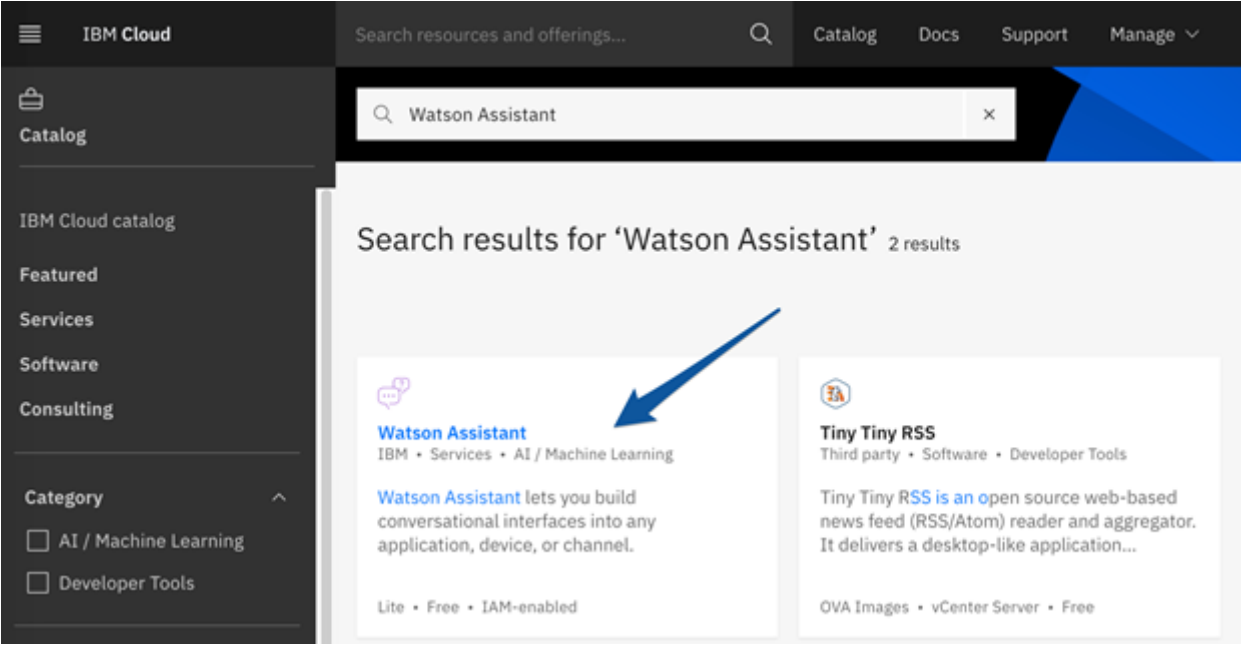
Now that you have an IBM Cloud account, it's time to create an instance of IBM Watson Assistant. **Visit your IBM Cloud [dashboard](#)** or simply type cloud.ibm.com in your browser's address bar. Next, follow these simple steps.

Note that you can always create new services (Watson Assistant or any other service available in the IBM Cloud catalog) by clicking on the *Create resource* button on your dashboard.

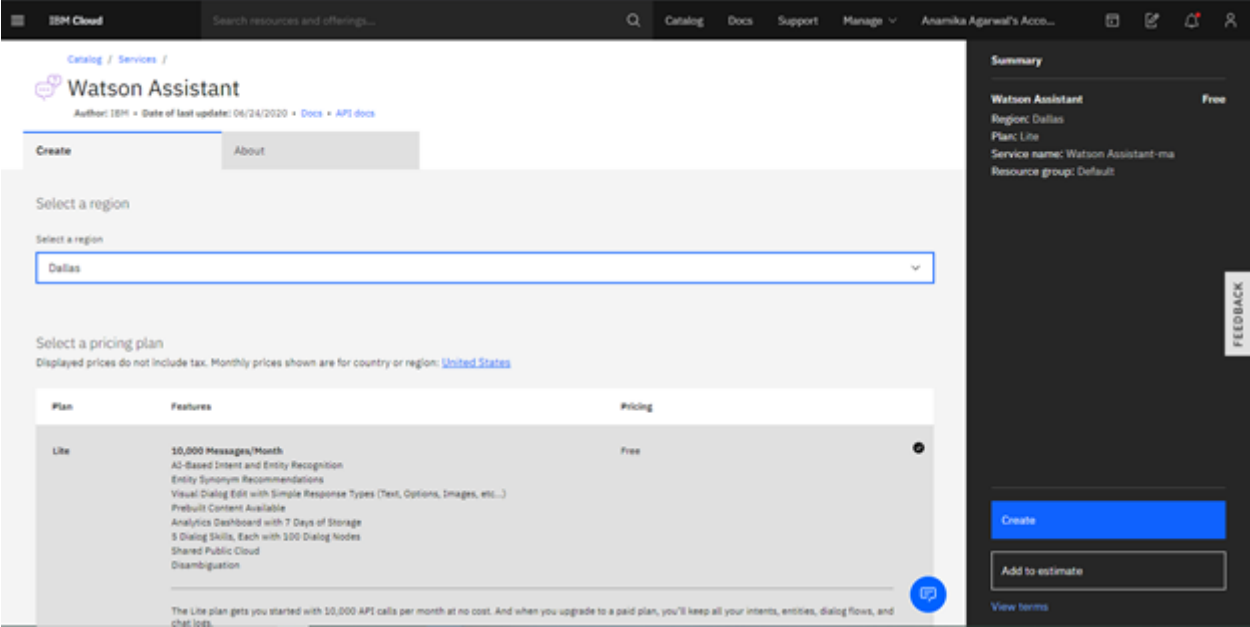
1. **Visit <https://cloud.ibm.com> and log in** with your IBM Cloud email and password.
2. You'll find yourself in your IBM Cloud dashboard. Click on the **Create resource button** on your dashboard, as shown in the picture below.



3. **Enter Watson Assistant in the search field** and press enter.
4. Now **click on the Watson Assistant tile** that appears, as shown in the image below.

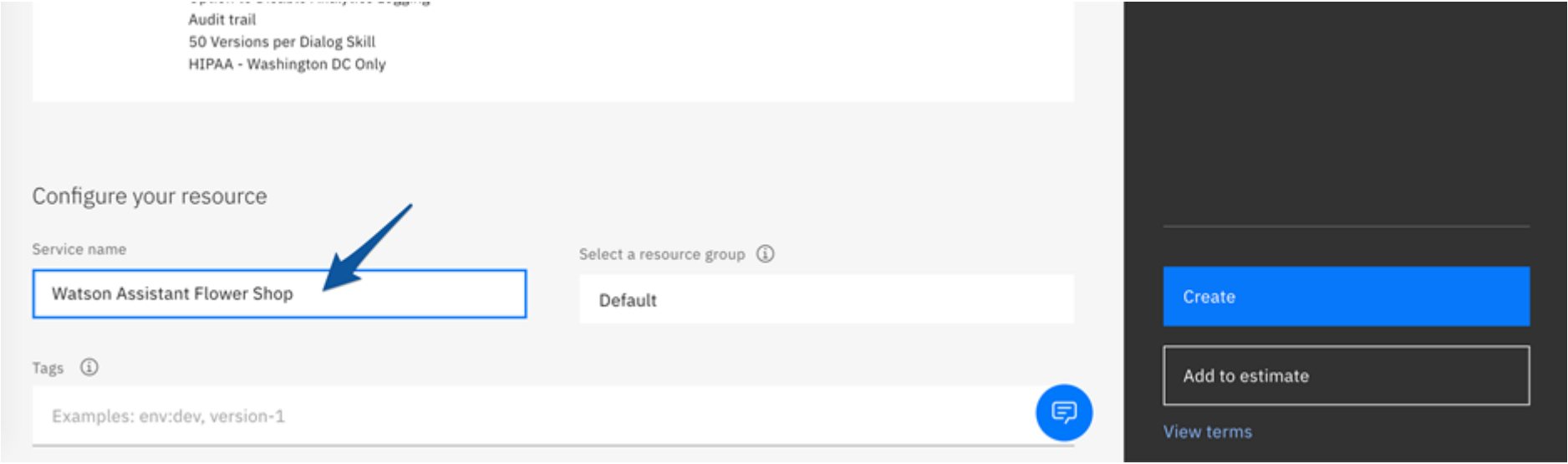


5. You should see a Watson Assistant creation page similar to the image below.



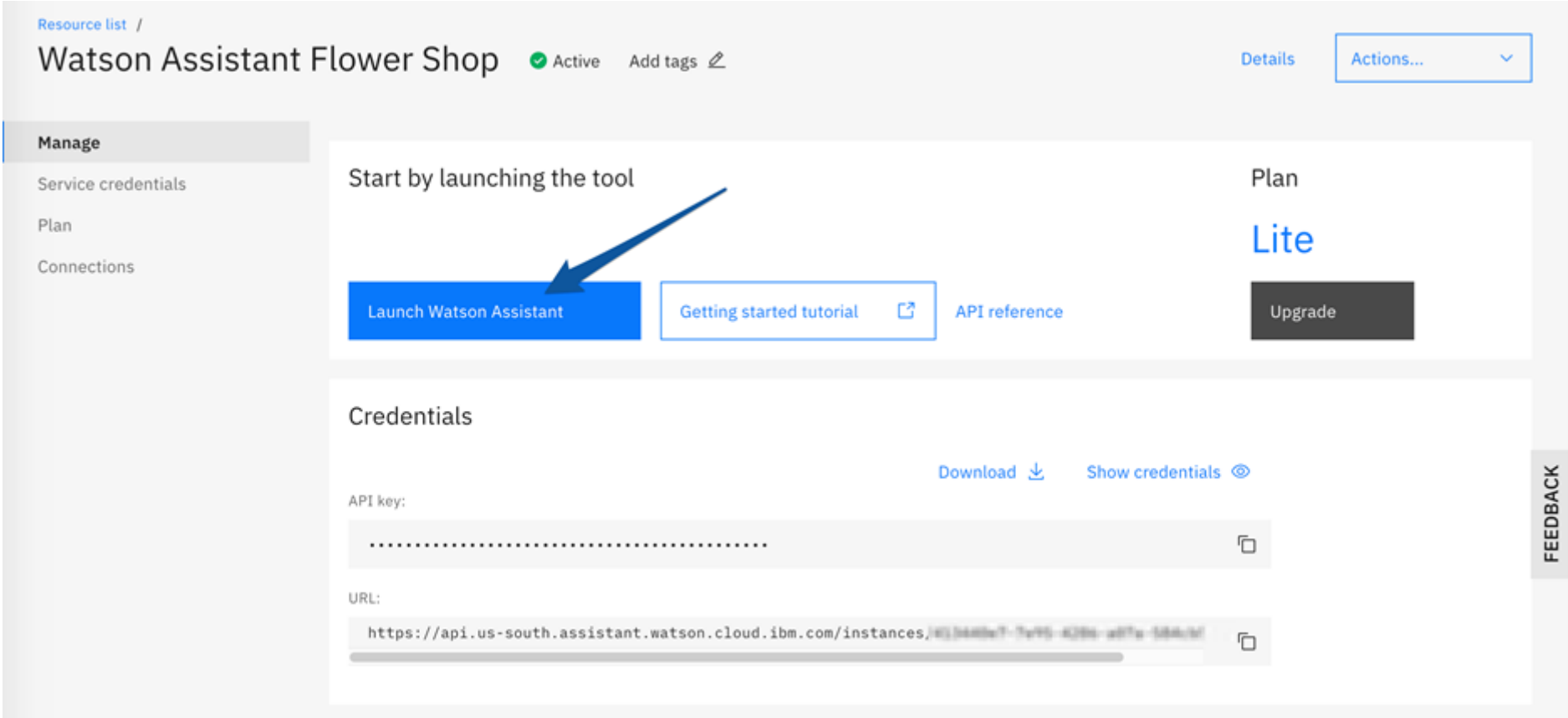
Click on the region drop down to select a data center closer to you. For example, you might select Frankfurt if you live in Europe. This will reduce latency and improve performance as you use Watson Assistant.

6. Scroll down the page and change the instance name to your liking (e.g., Watson Assistant Flower Shop), as shown in the image below.



7. Click on the **Create button** to create your instance.

8. You'll be redirected to the launch page for the service you just created. Click on the **Launch Watson Assistant** button to access the web application that will allow you to create chatbots.

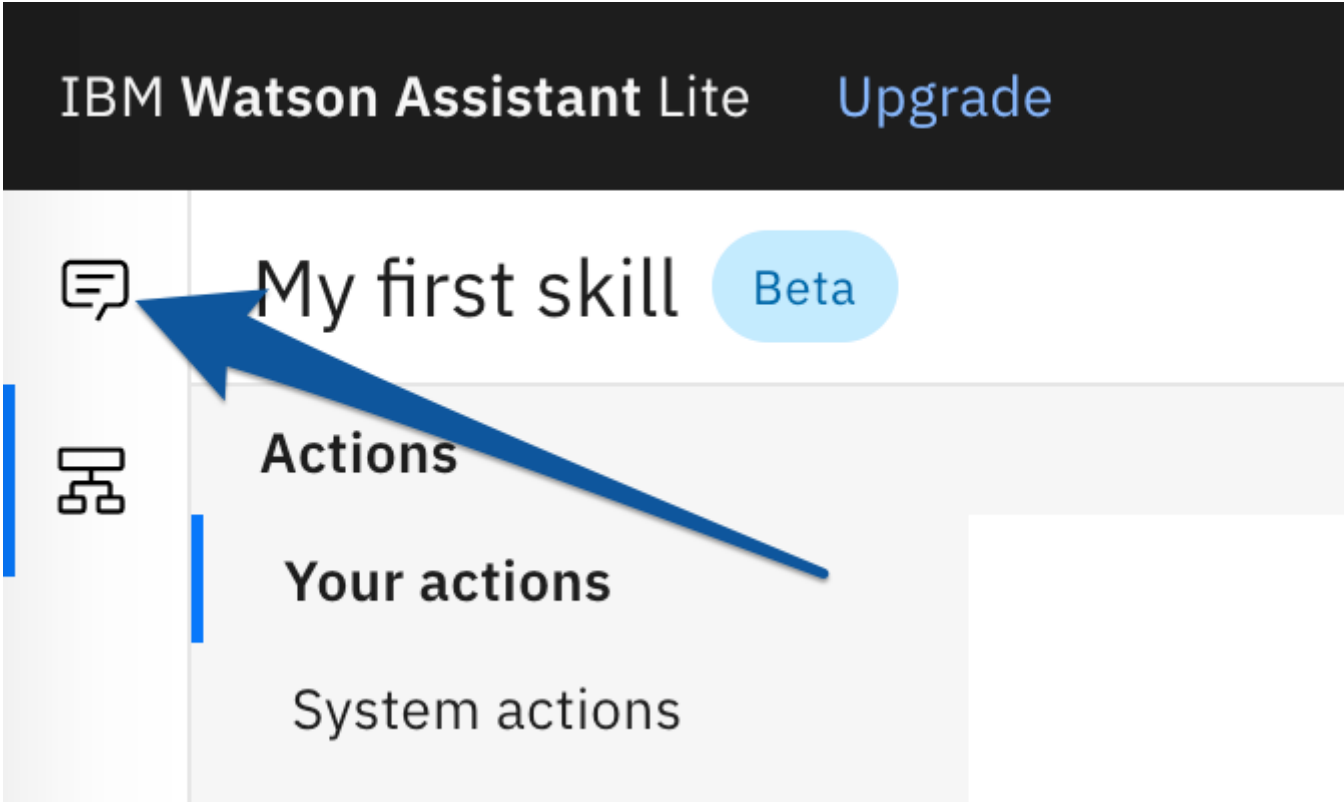


Congratulations on creating your instance of Watson Assistant!

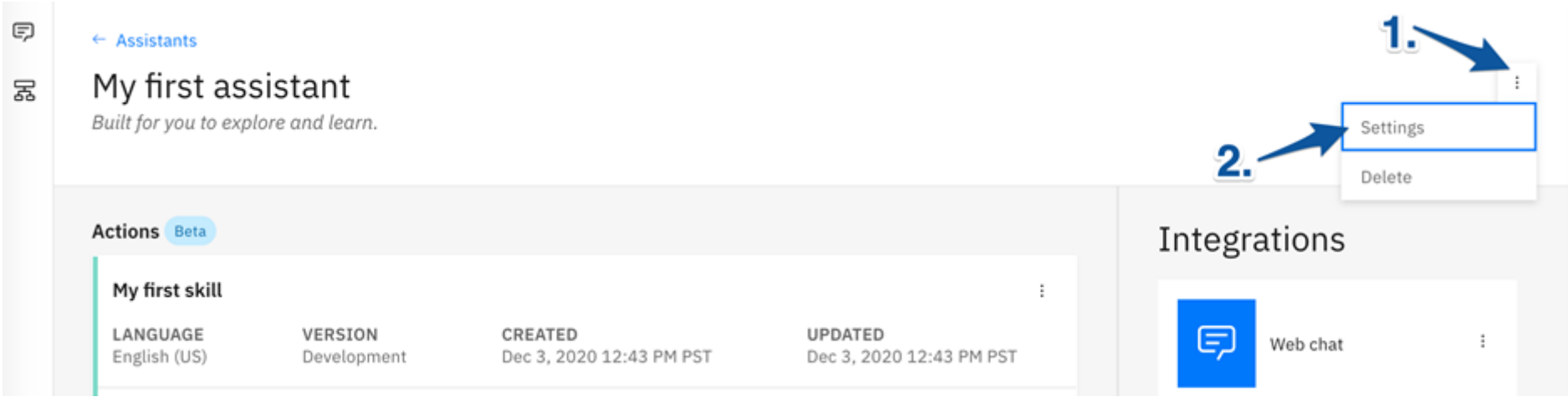
(If you see a survey asking you questions about whether you are a professional or a student, feel free to complete the survey or simply close that pop up.)

Exercise 3: Creating a dialog skill

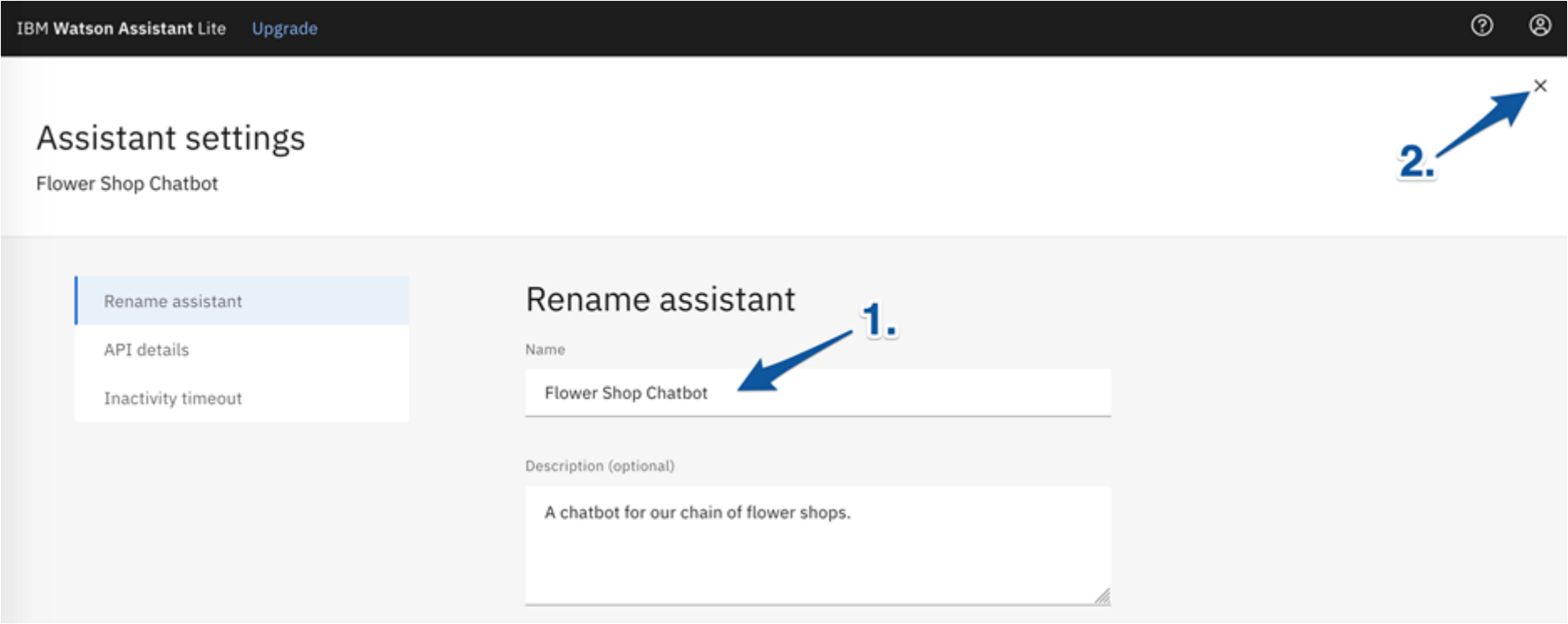
1. **Click on the Assistants icon** in the top left corner as shown in figure.



2. A default assistant has been created for you. **Click on My first assistant** .
3. **Click on the three vertical dot icon** to the right of the page, above *Integrations* and then **click on Settings** .

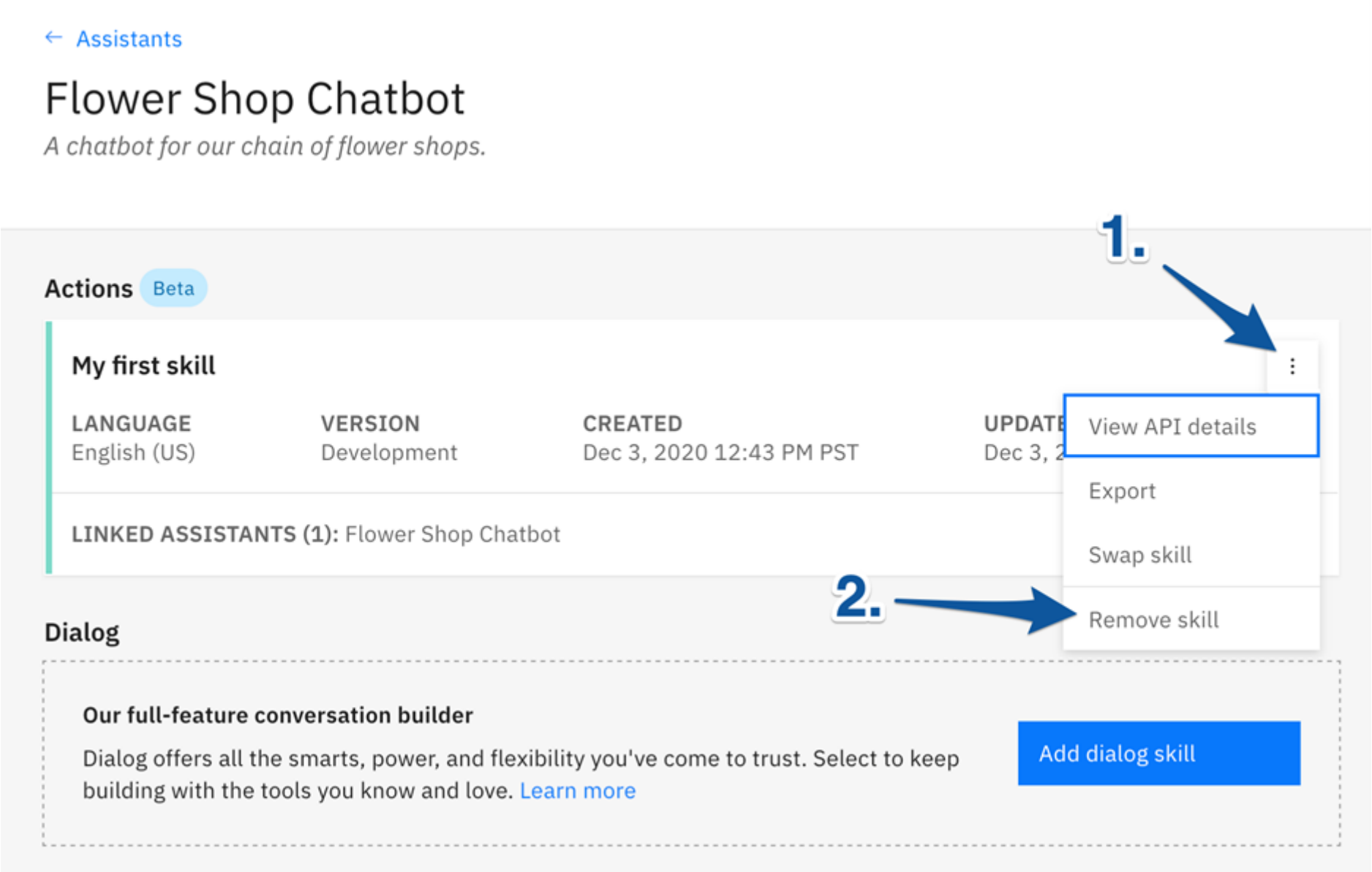


4. Here, **change the name of our assistant to Flower Shop Chatbot** and optionally change the description too. Once you're done, click on the X at the top to return to our assistant.



5. You can think of the assistant as the actual chatbot. And a chatbot will have one or more skills. Typically, a chatbot will have at least one dialog skill. We'll create one and link it to our assistant, but first, let's remove *My first skill* under *Actions*. (This is a type of skill that is still in beta and we can safely ignore it for now. Once this feature becomes generally available, I will update this course to take full advantage of it.)

To do so, **click on the three vertical dots icon on the right of **My first skill** , and then **click Remove skill** . A pop up will appear asking you to confirm. Go ahead and **click Remove**, confirming your intention to remove the skill from the assistant.



6. Now, **click Add dialog skill** .

[← Assistants](#)

Flower Shop Chatbot

A chatbot for our chain of flower shops.

Actions Beta

Build conversations easier than ever

- Have an assistant ready to chat in less time, with less effort
- Compose step-by-step flows for any range of simple or complex conversations
- Focus more on your customer's goals and experience
- Collaborate and work more intuitively, made so that anybody can build

[Learn more](#)

Add an actions skill

Dialog

Our full-feature conversation builder

Dialog offers all the smarts, power, and flexibility you've come to trust. Select to keep building with the tools you know and love. [Learn more](#)

Add dialog skill

7. Enter **Flower Shop Skill** and click **Create dialog skill** . Optionally add a description if you wish.

[← Assistants](#)

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[Learn more](#)

Add an actions skill

Dialog

Flower Shop Skill

LANGUAGE: English (US)	TRAINED DATA: 0 Intents 0 Entities 2 Dialog nodes	VERSION:	DESCRIPTION: ---
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VERSION CREATED:

LINKED ASSISTANTS (1): Flower Shop Chatbot

Watson doesn't really care about these labels and descriptions, but they help humans working on the chatbot better understand how things are organized and why.

8. You'll now be redirected back to your Flower Shop Chatbot. **Bookmark this page** in your browser so as to quickly access it later on.

9. Finally, **click on the Flower Shop Skill tile** that was created for you within the assistant, as shown in the image below.

(If you see any survey or tour pop ups, feel free to dismiss them.)

Congratulations on completing this lab! 🎉

Author(s)

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Changelog

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2020-08-27	2.0	Anamika	Migrated Lab to Markdown and added to course repo in GitLab
2021-01-08	3.0	Srishti	Updated Lab

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