# PAUSE-REFLECT MODEL

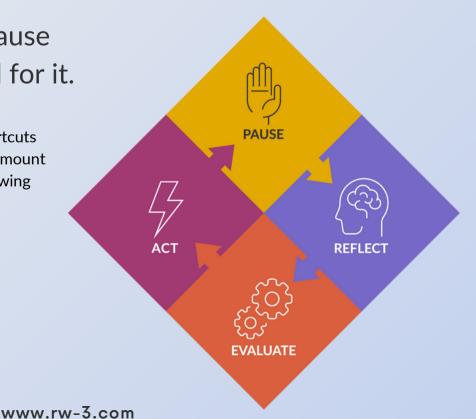




All humans have bias, because we're neurologically wired for it.

To override our brain's tendency to take shortcuts in order to make sense of an overwhelming amount of information, we have to learn tools for slowing down our thinking process.







### **PAUSE**

Taking a moment to pause is one of the most important steps in slowing the mind, reducing bias, and improving your approach to conflict resolution. You can take 3 deep breaths, go for a brief walk outside, or simply sit and close your eyes.

### REFLECT

Giving yourself the space to really think about the situation from multiple angles, and to identify how you feel and why, can help you communicate more clearly during difficult conversations with colleagues, employers, or employees.

## **EVALUATE**

It's important that before you choose how to approach the situation, you spend a little time thinking about the perspectives of all involved, and also that you evaluate what approach would likely lead to the best outcome.

### **ACT**

Once you have paused, reflected on the situation, evaluated different perspectives and your innate tool kit for communication and conflict resolution, then you can deliberately choose words or actions that will likely be most effective and inclusive.



### **PAUSE**

What can you to to pause your thinking? How does it feel to pause?

# **REFLECT**

Write down some thoughts about the situation from multiple angles.

# **EVALUATE**

Consider the different perspectives, and your most effective communication tools. What's the best approach?

# **ACT**

How did your approach work? How might it have been different if you hadn't first stopped to reflect?



PAUSE • REFLECT • EVALUATE • ACT