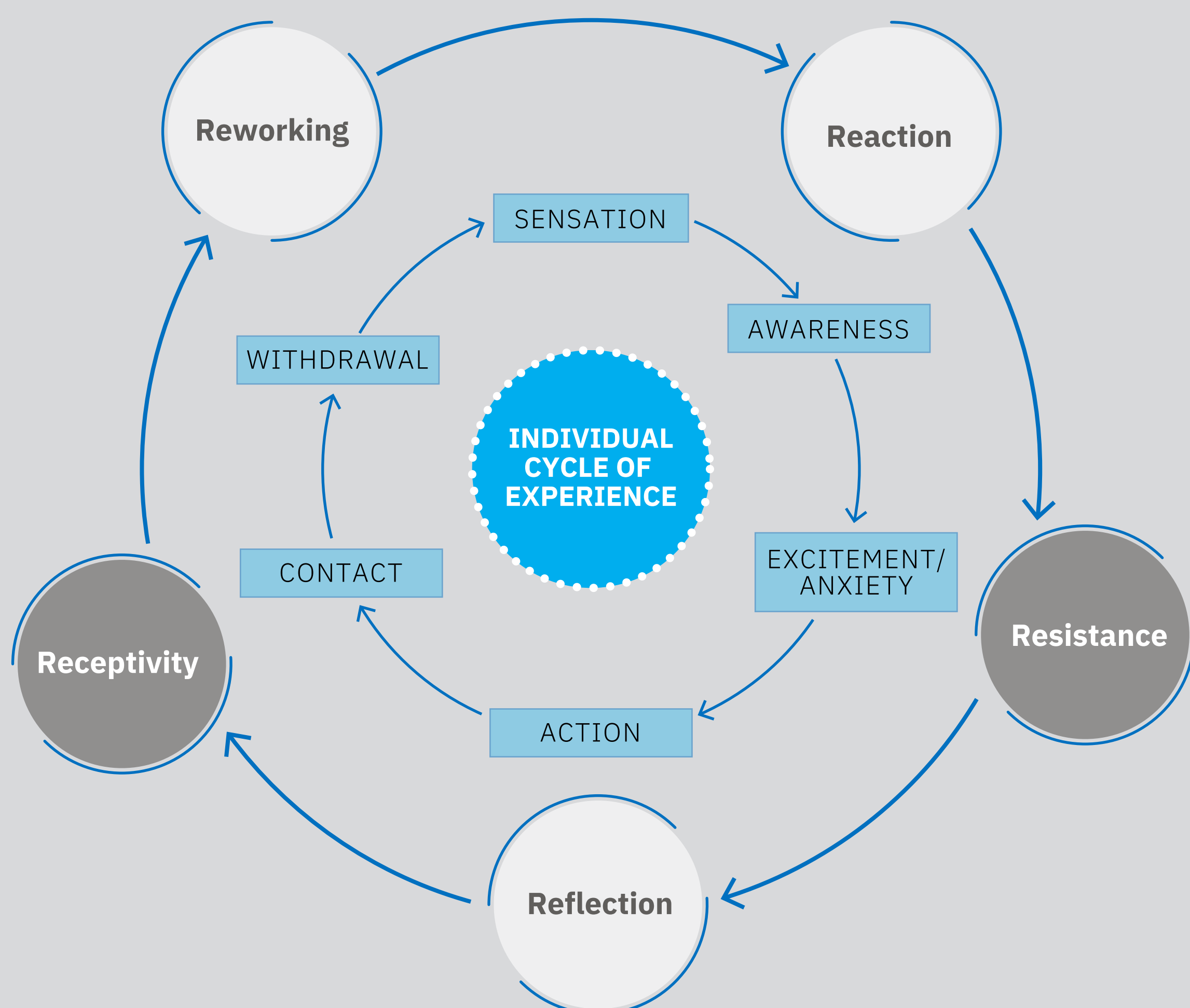
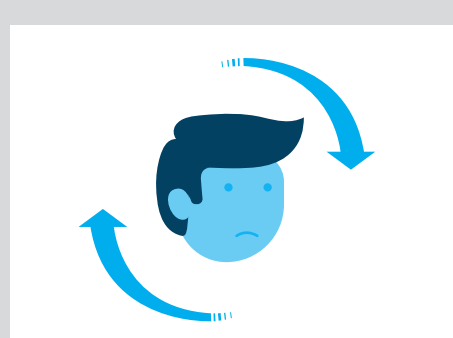


# THE CYCLE OF RELATIONAL ENGAGEMENT



## STAGES OF RELATIONAL ENGAGEMENT



### **Reaction**

My attention is aroused through sensory awareness, prior to figure formation. My senses elicit feelings and feelings trigger needs. My alarm sounds at the potential threat to needs being compromised and excitement around other needs being met.



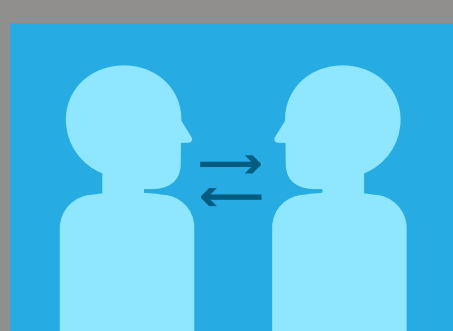
### **Resistance**

My forces for sameness and change are activated, triggering my protective mechanisms. I notice my hesitation and begin looking inward at motivation and/or intent.



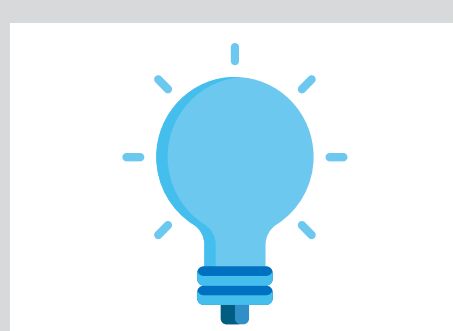
### **Reflection**

I form images, associations, and memories. Instinctive reactions give way to more deliberate recognition of self-in-relation to other. As I own my 'stuff', I can more easily navigate the challenges of taking in the other while maintaining my sense of self.



### **Receptivity**

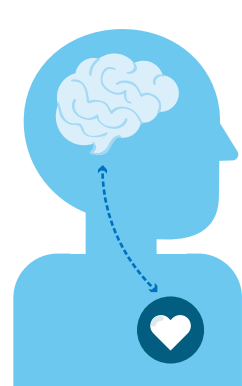
My protective mechanisms dissipate as I identify how to meet my wants, needs, aware of my style of manipulation. Fear is leaned into helping to grow excitement.



### **Reworking**

As I recognize my needs I more closely consider the other. We begin to explore and negotiate differences, considering where change or acceptance is needed to make better contact.

## DEFINITIONS OF CONTACT & ENGAGEMENT



### **CONTACT**

How we make meaning of data (such as sensations) to let us know a need isn't being met or threatened.



### **ENGAGEMENT**

The process by which we make contact within or with others, leading to a meaningful outcome.

**INTERRUPTIONS TO THE CYCLE OF ENGAGEMENT IS HOW WE UNDERSTAND CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES WITH STUDENTS**