APPLE

A Mindful Response to Thoughts



Acknowledge - Notice and acknowledge the thought as it comes to mind.

Pause - Don't react as you normally do. Just pause, and breathe.

Pull BACK - Tell yourself this is just the anxiety or depression talking, and this thought or feeling is <u>only</u> a <u>thought</u> or feeling.

Don't believe everything you think! Thoughts are not statements of fact.

LET GO - Let go of the thought or feeling. It will pass. You don't have to respond to them. You might imagine them floating away in a bubble or cloud.

EXPLORE - Explore the present moment, because right now, in this moment, all is well. Notice your breathing, and the sensations of breathing. Notice the ground beneath you. Look around and notice what you see, what you hear, what you can touch, what you can smell. Right NOW. Then, SHIFT YOUR FOCUS OF ATTENTION to something else - on what you need to do, on what you were doing before you noticed the worry, or do something else - mindfully, with your full attention.