A Setback without a Shame Spiral - Session activity

Facilitate a structured practice of a setback without a shame spiral with preparation, reflection, and an agreed closing.

Mental health professionals | 30 minutes

Fictional example: Noah misses a self-chosen limit and wants to avoid abandoning the entire plan.

0-5 min | Agree on purpose and fit

Explain the educational scope. Ask what would be useful, check readiness and access needs, and establish choices to observe, adapt, or pass. Use an ordinary example; do not solicit trauma narratives.

5-10 min | Orient with an example

A missed goal can inform revision without becoming proof of a damaged identity. Fictional example: Noah misses a self-chosen limit and wants to avoid abandoning the entire plan. Ask what is observed and what remains uncertain.

10-20 min | Practice and compare

Review what happened, contextual pressures, actual consequences, and one support or adjustment. Offer quiet individual work, a supported conversation, or an observing role. Compare two possible responses without evaluating people as right or wrong.

20-25 min | Reflect on meaning

What can the plan learn from this event? Ask what fit, what did not fit, and how culture, power, disability access, or external conditions affect the options.

25-30 min | Integrate and close

Invite one optional next step or support request. Orient to the current setting, allow an unfinished question to remain unfinished, and agree how to revisit it. End early or adapt if activation increases.

Adaptations

For a group, use fiction and no compulsory round-robin disclosure. For remote use, allow off-camera reflection and private notes. For brief use, keep one example and one question while retaining opening and closing choices.

Reflection

What adaptation or follow-up is needed?

Scope and adaptation

Adult-only, non-explicit educational resources. The searchable phrase pornography addiction is not used here as an established diagnosis. Frequency, high desire, or moral distress alone does not establish a disorder; assess impaired control, functioning, distress, consent, and context with a qualified clinician. Respect consensual sexuality and chosen goals; no explicit media, aversion exercises, forced disclosure, or coercive monitoring.

Original AI-assisted educational draft; independent clinical review pending. Version 1.0. Background: AASECT Position on Sex Addiction. Full source links and scope: library.morethantherapy.org/recovery/resources/PPU-A15-4