

#### **Crucial Skills for Crucial Times**



# Habits for Working from Home

How to Adapt Your Workplace Routines for At-Home Success

With Emily Gregory





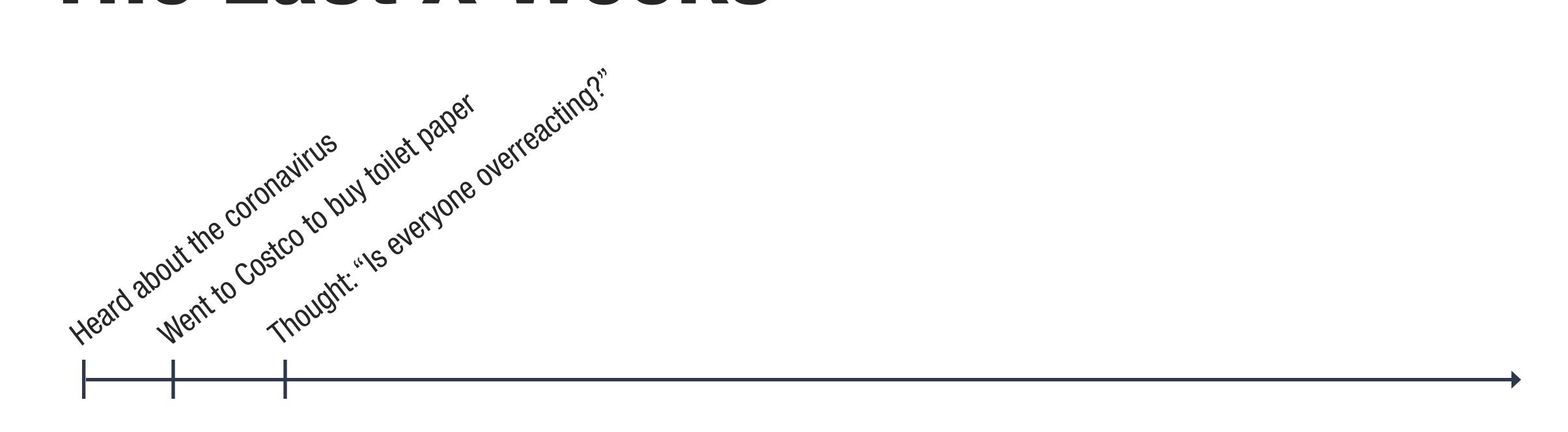




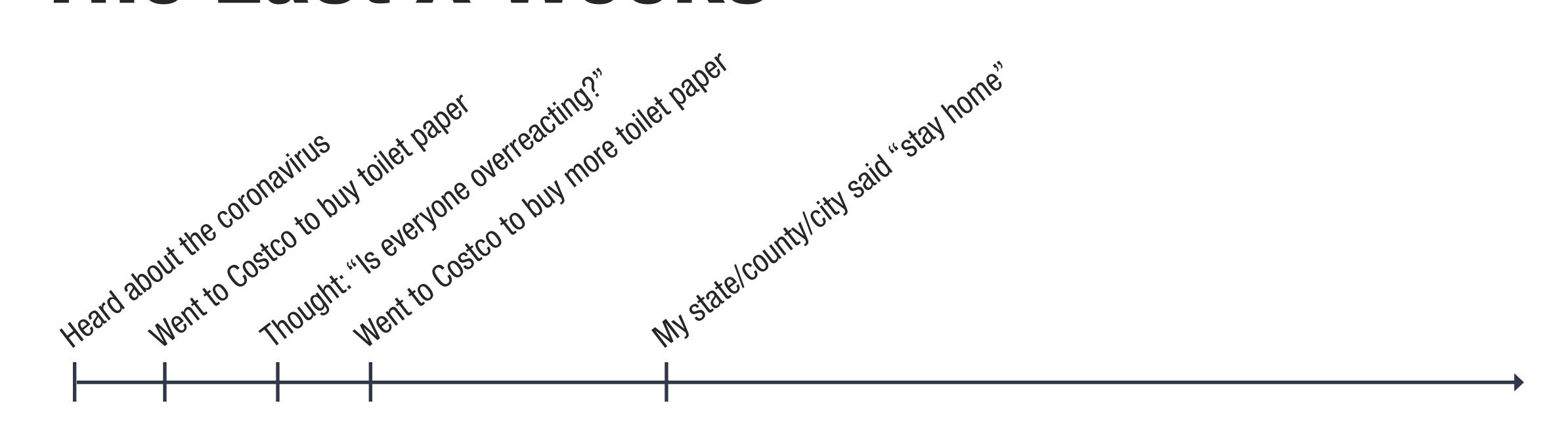


Heard about the coronavirus

Heard about the coronavirus
Went to Costco to buy toilet paper











- Converted a closet to "my office"
- Spent three hours testing out different Zoom virtual backgrounds
- Handed the iPad to my 8-year-old and walked away
- Stood in line at Costco to buy more toilet paper
- Embraced the new ability to order wine with takeout. Lots of wine

- Called Great Auntie Jemma to sew masks for my family
- Cried from exhaustion
- Panicked when my therapist wasn't covered for telehealth
- Helped my spouse file for unemployment
- Prayed

# Invitation for the next 40 minutes: Be in charge of you. Just you.

#### Assumptions:

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- Most employees and customers will be moving about more freely.
- People will come out of their caves still anxious and hypervigilant.
- The virus may become "seasonal"—meaning, like the seasonal flu that takes 500,000 lives every year, it will always be lurking.

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#### Your Problem

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- 3. **Virtual-Adapted.** We've moved irreversibly to new modes of working. If done casually, all of your old cultural weaknesses will be magnified. You need the cultural strengths and behaviors that will help you turn this new reality into a strength, not a weakness . . . long term.

#### Your Problem

In order to survive and thrive in the months ahead, you need to be:

- 1. **COVID-Resistant.** Adopt the habits that will make your family act safely as well as feel safe during this pandemic.
- 2. **Recovery-Accelerating.** Build and reinforce the daily rituals that build emotional, physical, and spiritual energy so you can see and capitalize on future opportunities, rather than be mired in the past.
- 3. **Virtual-Adapted.** You are working in new ways, requiring you to interact with tasks and people differently. Thriving in a virtual world is not just about getting the right technology. You will need to behave in different ways as you interact through technology.

## **Unproductive at Home?** The Most Common and Surprising Work from Home Habits of Highly Productive People

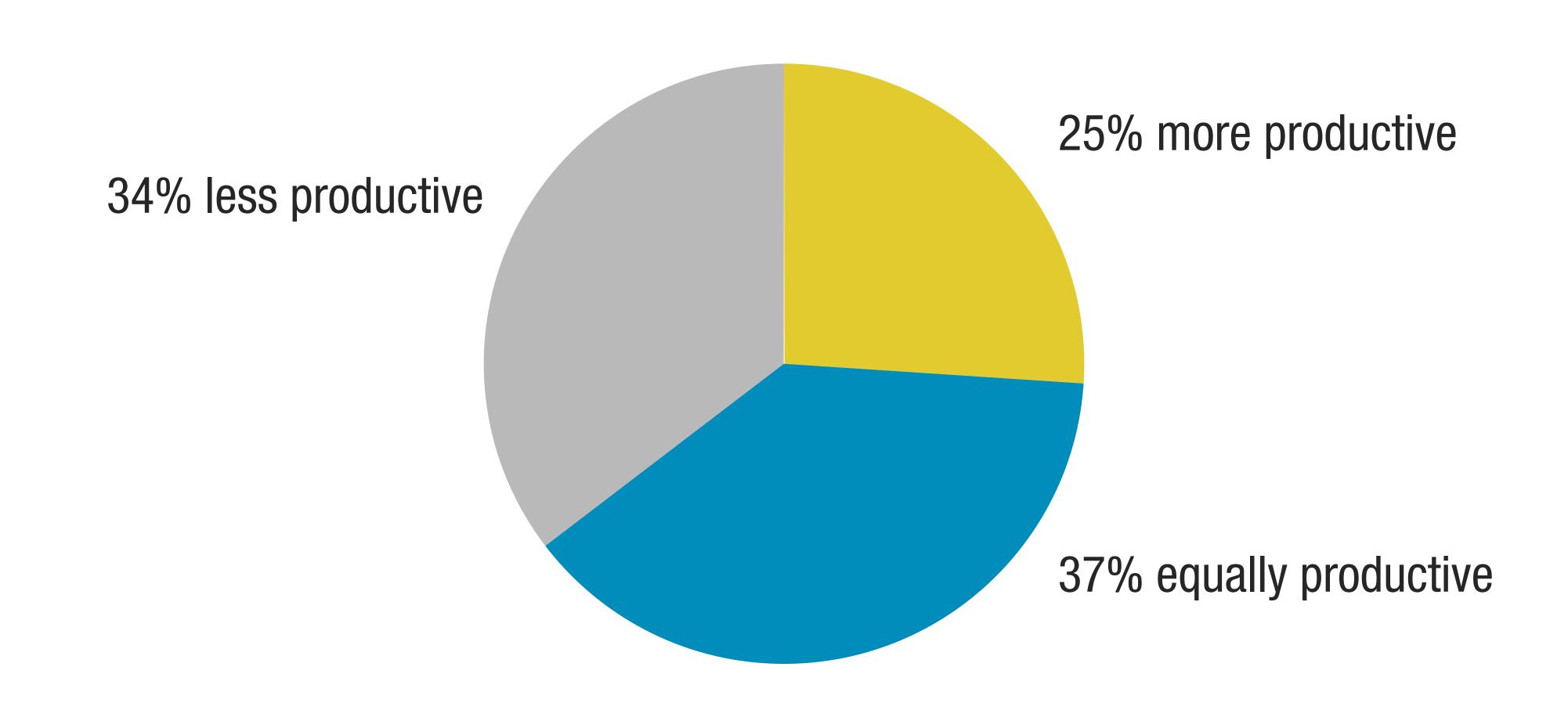
- 1,500 people who were recently sent home to work
- 9 out 10 were given less than a week's notice
- 1 in 4 were given less than day to pack up their well-equipped office

## **Unproductive at Home?** The Most Common and Surprising Work from Home Habits of Highly Productive People

#### Biggest challenges:

- Not connecting with colleagues (47 percent)
- Available technology (36 percent)
- Too many distractions (32 percent)
- Lack of focus (29 percent)
- Feeling disorganized (27 percent)

## **Unproductive at Home?** The Most Common and Surprising Work from Home Habits of Highly Productive People



## 2,300 best practice ideas

- Routine Rules All
- Break Often and Well
- Arrange Office Space
- Connect Consistently
- Dress for the Job
- Tackle Your To-do's

- Start, Stop, and Reset
- Get Out
- Stretch
- Manage Stress meditation, exercise, media limits

#### Chat

In the last six weeks, I have:

- read a blog
- seen a social media post
- watched a news show
- talked to my mother-in-law

And been told what new habits I need in order to be: happy, healthy, successful, rich, resilient, safe, Pinterest-worthy, etc.

Yes or no?

1. What habits to change2. How to change them

THE HABITS THAT MATTER MOST ARE THE ONES THAT, WHEN THEY START TO SHIFT, DISLODGE AND REMAKE OTHER PATTERNS.

—Charles Duhigg





1. What habits to change2. How to change them

# There is no easy button for habits, right?



# How many of you have a habit that you have wanted to or tried to change for more than:

- One month?
- Six months?
- One year?

- Six years?
- More than six years?

# Years to change a culture to the point it is sustainable.

John Cotter, Leading Change

## Years to change a culture to the point it is sustainable.

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Weeks for new employees to become enculturated.

Gene Dalton, *Novations:*Strategies for Career Management

# How many of you have changed a habit in the last six weeks?

- I have lost, started, or changed a habit in the last six weeks.
- My habits have not changed at all in the last six weeks.

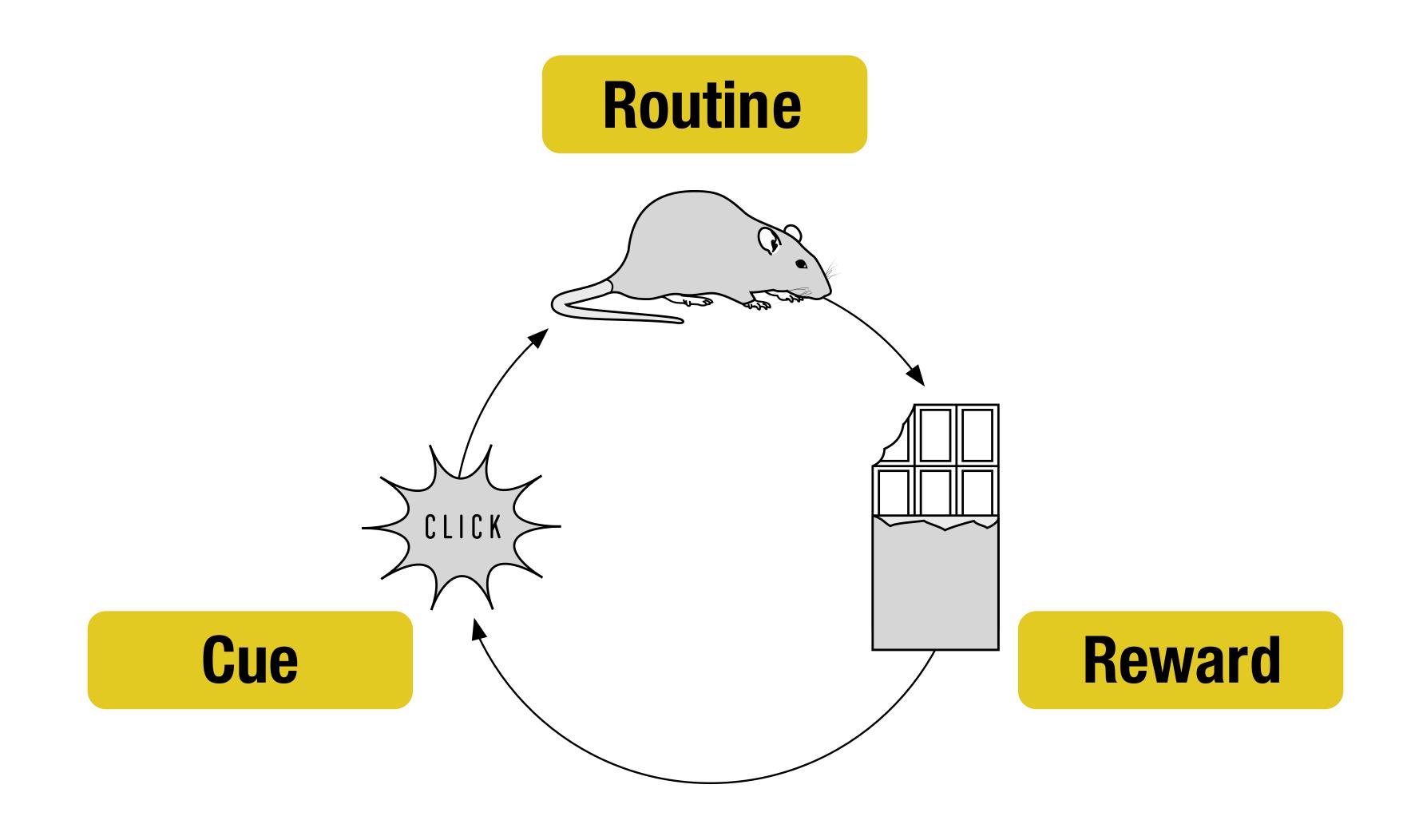
## The Irony

Habits are both incredibly resilient and incredibly fragile.

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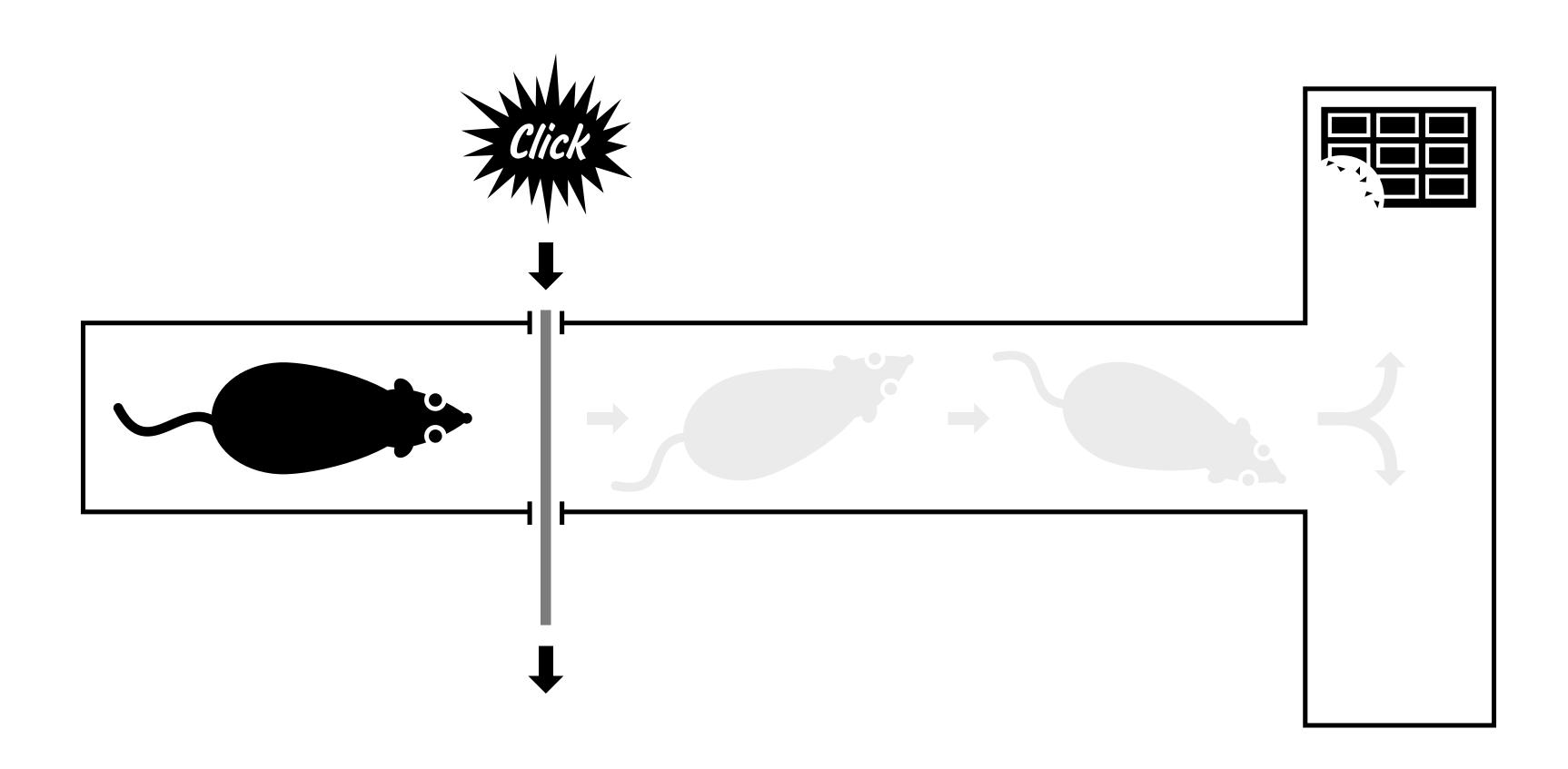
A habit is more than a behavior. It's a loop

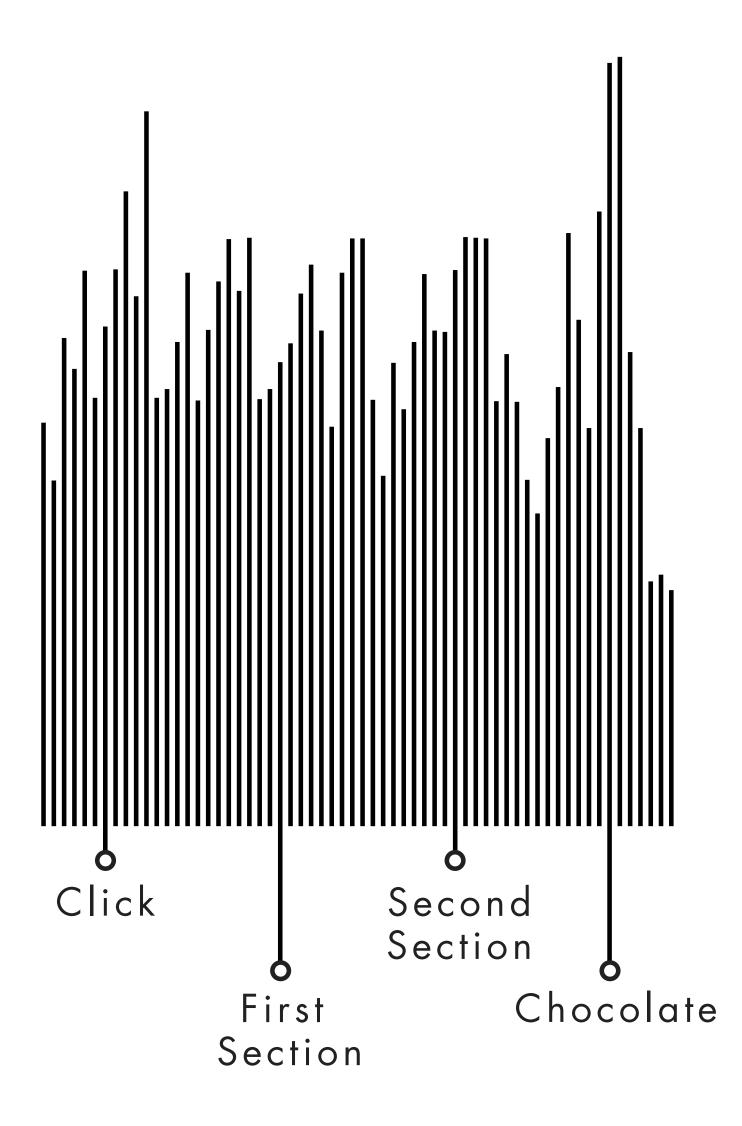
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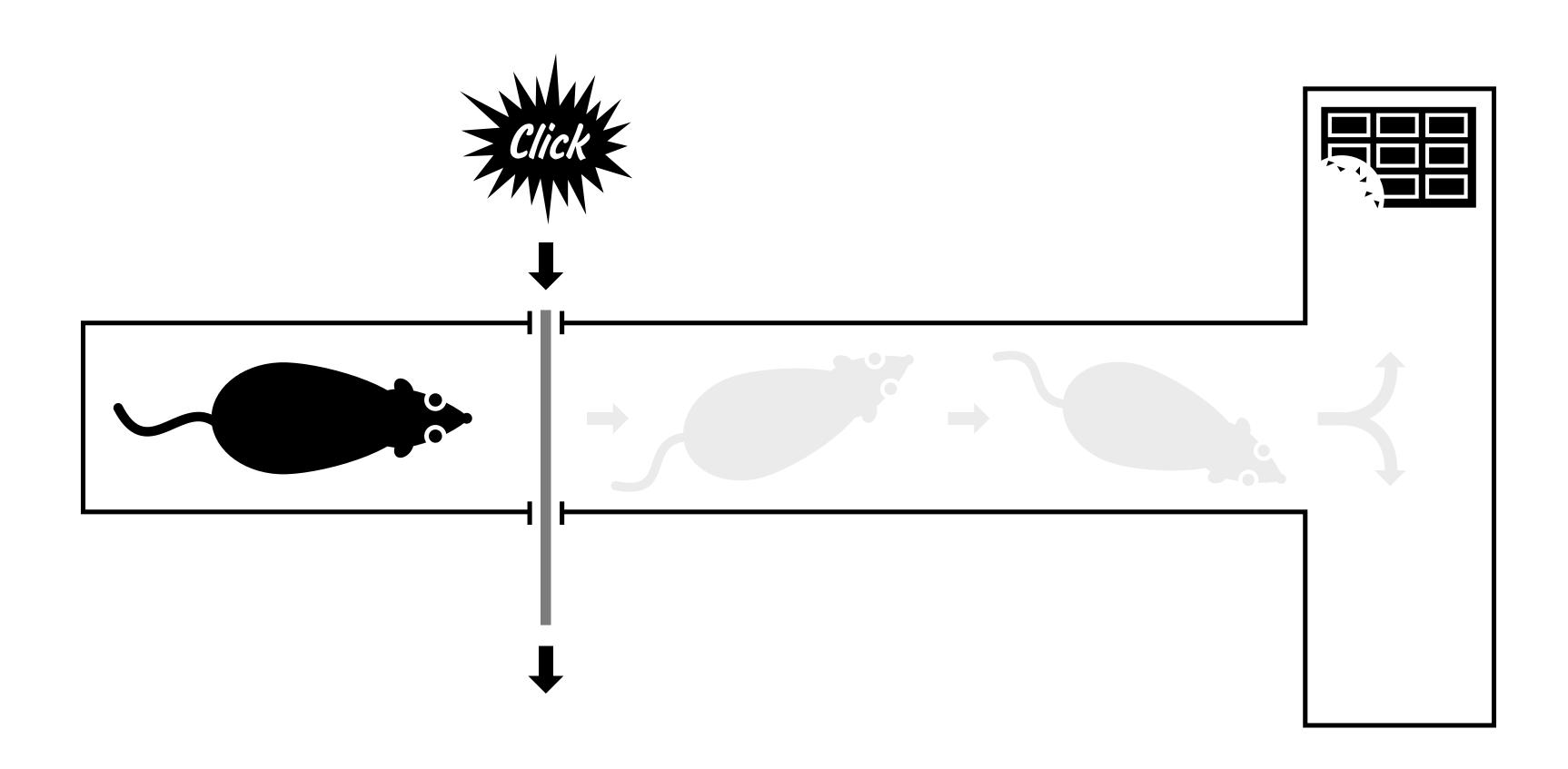
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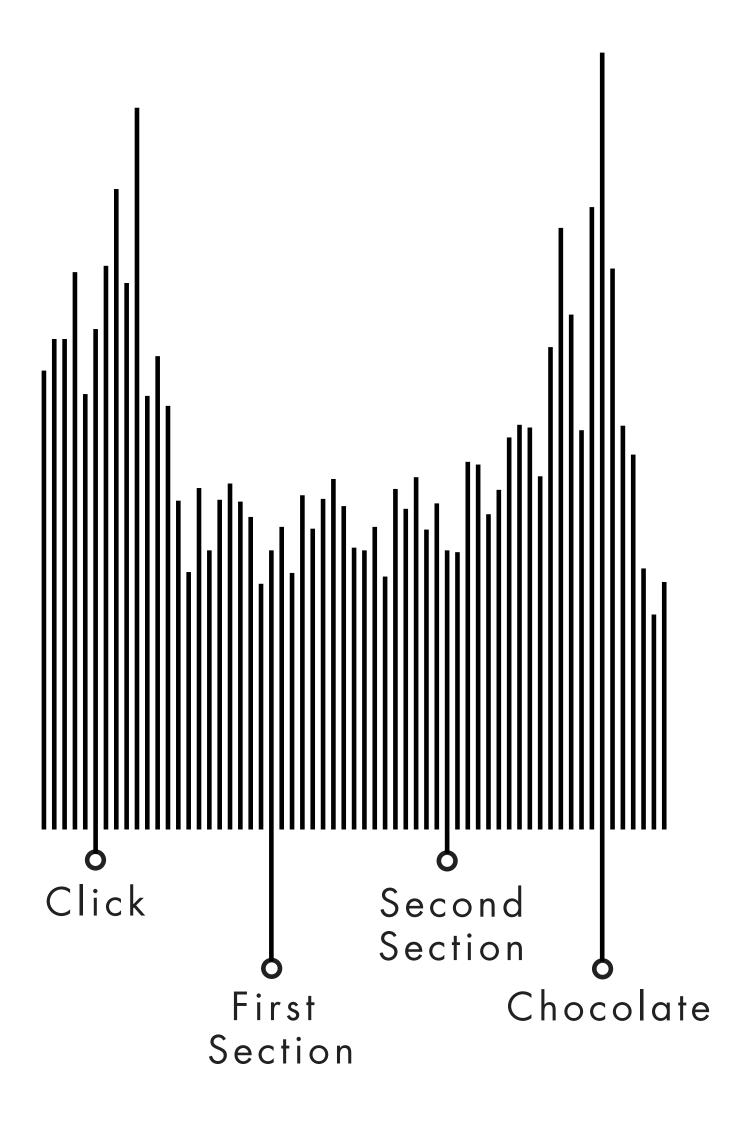
#### Spot the Loop

"What is the cue and the reward that drives my routine?"



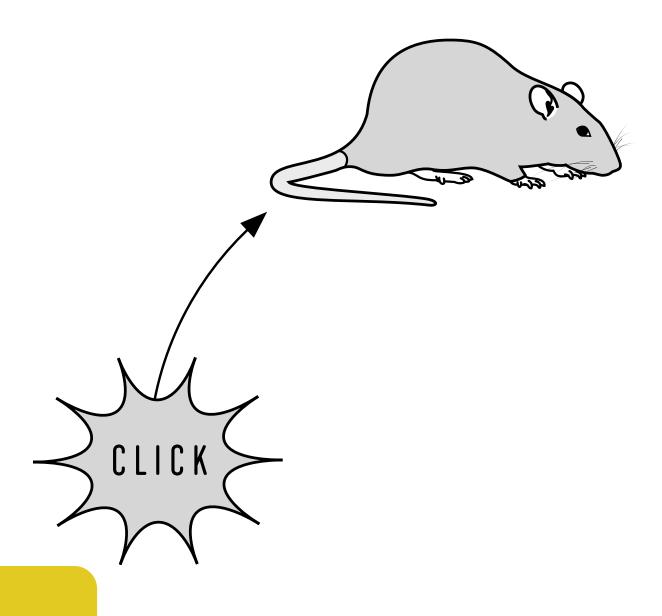




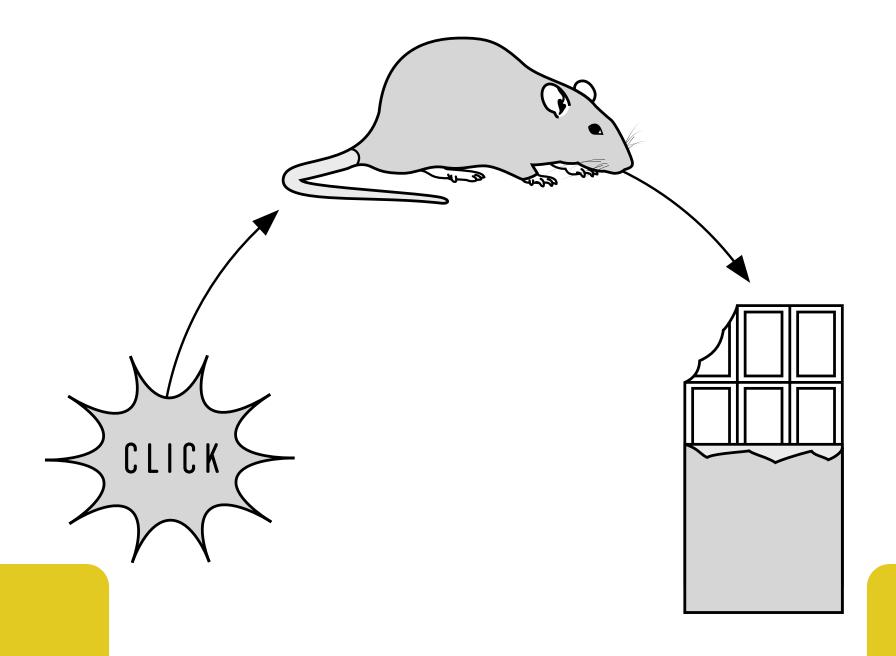




Cue

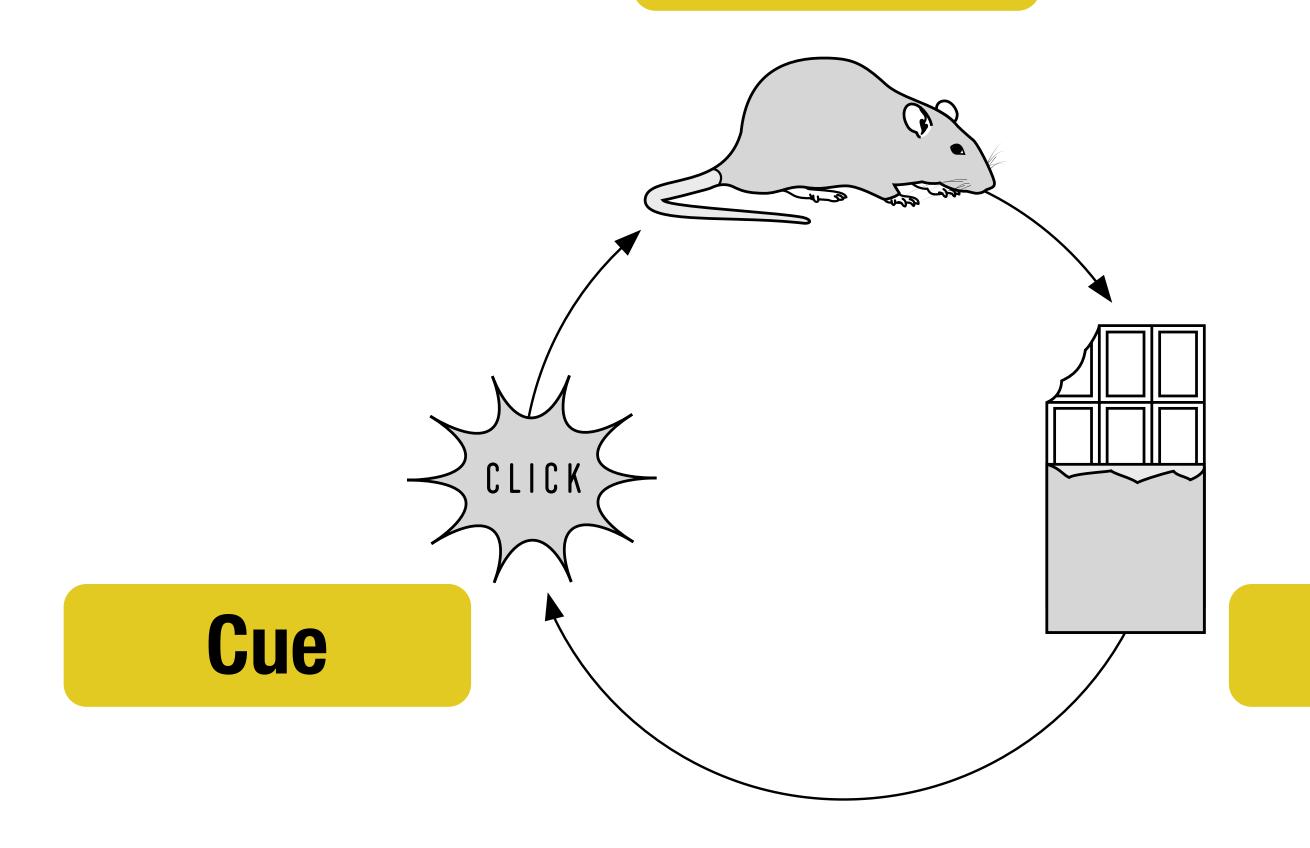


Cue



Cue

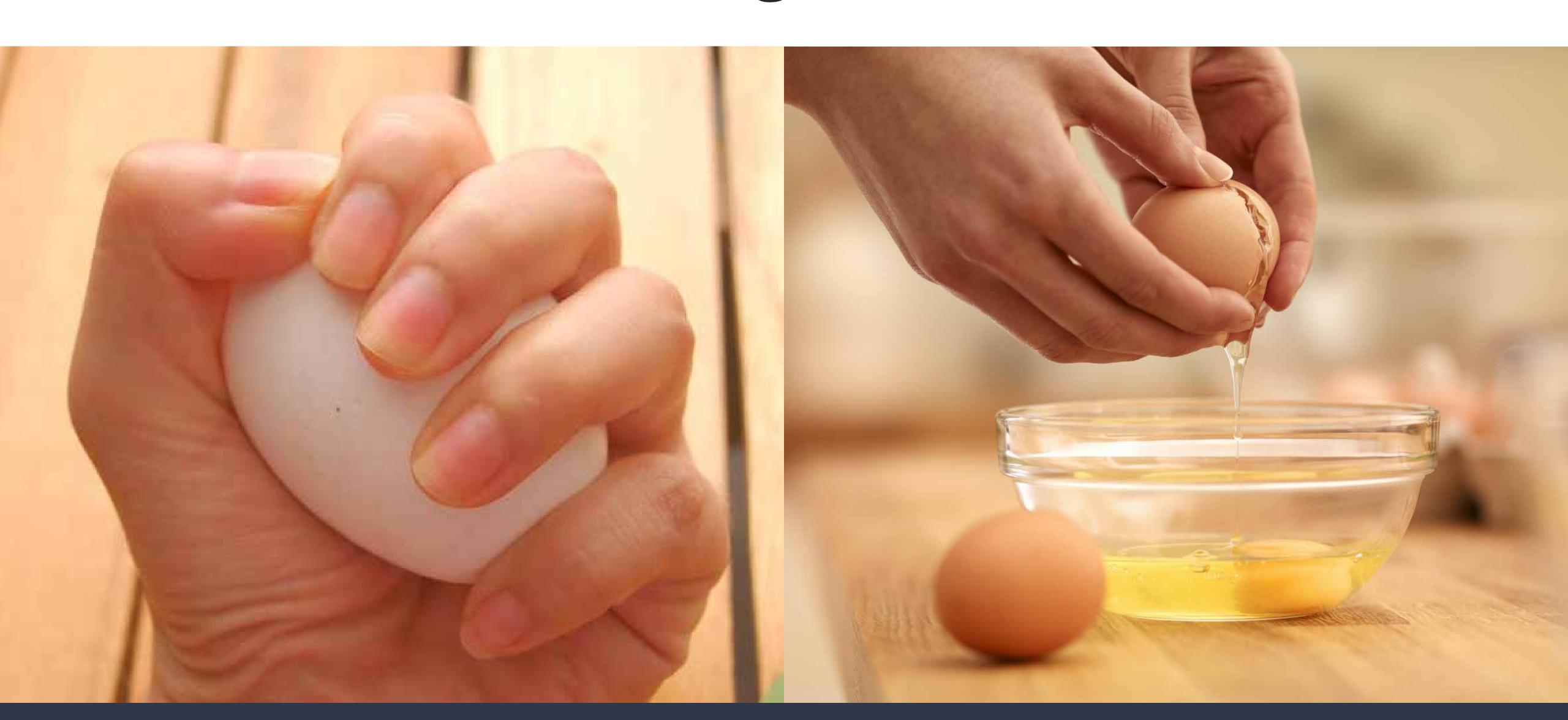
Reward



Reward

#### Insert some habit loops old and new, pre and post COVID

### Resilient AND Fragile



# BIGIDEA

#2

#### Control Your Cues

Cues are the entry condition to our habits. Decide now which doors you want to open.





PLACES: "When I walk into my office ..."



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**TIMES:** "At 8:00 a.m., I will ..."



PLACES: "When I walk into my office ..."



**TIMES:** "At 8:00 a.m., I will ..."



**OBJECTS:** "When I see my phone ..."



PLACES: "When I walk into my office ..."



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**PEOPLE:** "I lose my temper in meetings with the product team ..."



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THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS: "When I'm frustrated, I tend to ..."



PLACES: "When I walk into my office ..."



**TIMES:** "At 8:00 a.m., I will ..."



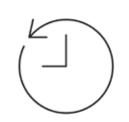
**OBJECTS:** "When I see my phone ..."



**PEOPLE:** "I lose my temper in meetings with the product team ..."



THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS: "When I'm frustrated, I tend to ..."



PRECEDING EVENTS OR HABITS: "When our weekly meeting ends ..."

#### Chat

Think of a habit you were awesome at before COVID-19, and now aren't so great at.

What cue(s) has changed?



PLACES: Where am I?



PLACES: Where am !?



TIMES: What time is it?



PLACES: Where am I?



TIMES: What time is it?



**OBJECTS:** What item or thing do I see or experience?



PLACES: Where am I?



TIMES: What time is it?



**OBJECTS:** What item or thing do I see or experience?



PEOPLE: Who else is around?



PLACES: Where am I?



TIMES: What time is it?



**OBJECTS:** What item or thing do I see or experience?



PEOPLE: Who else is around?



THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS: What am I experiencing?



PLACES: Where am I?



TIMES: What time is it?



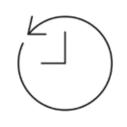
**OBJECTS:** What item or thing do I see or experience?



PEOPLE: Who else is around?

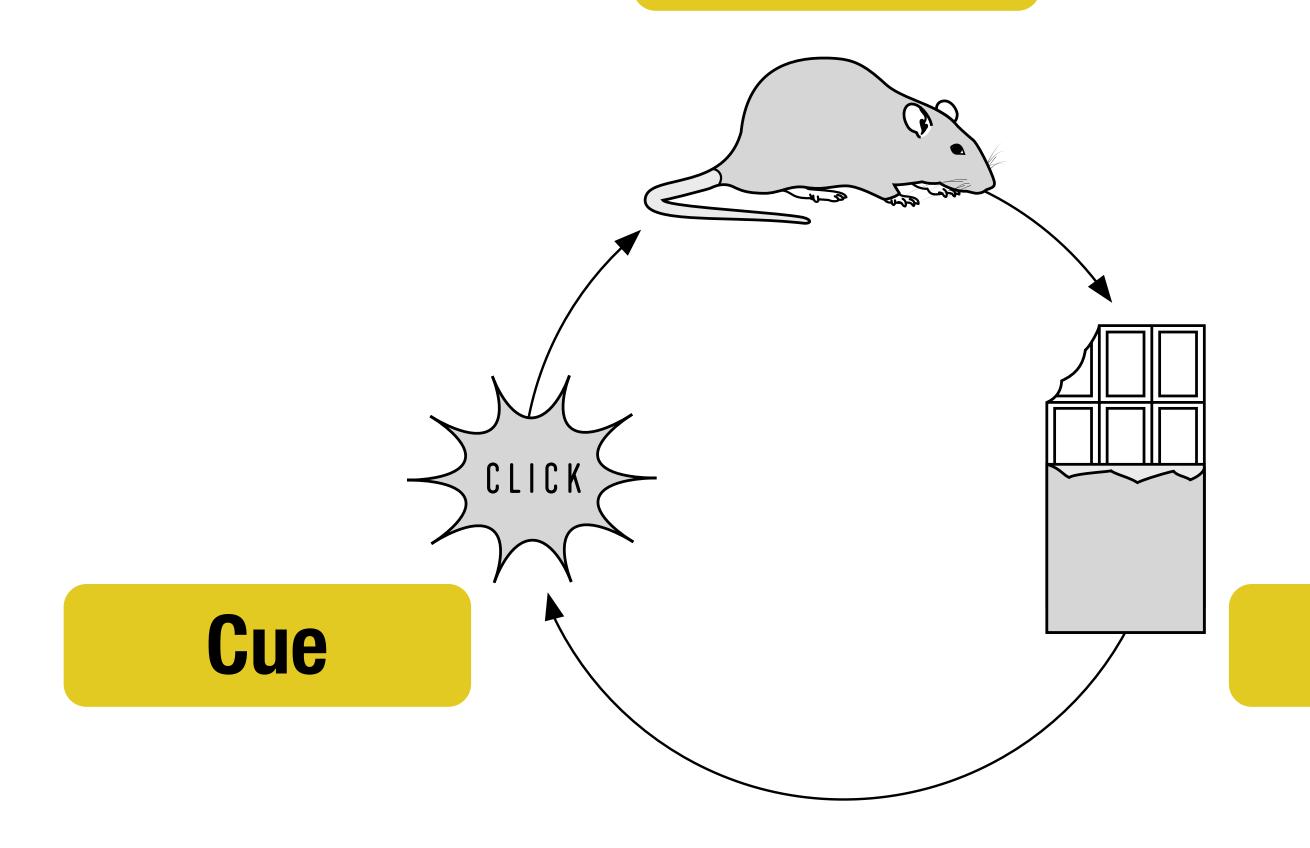


THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS: What am I experiencing?



**PRECEDING EVENTS OR HABITS:** What action preceded the urge?





Reward

#### Chat

What rewards you?

#### Chat

What rewards you? How do you reward yourself?

#### A Spectrum of Rewards

#### EXTRINSIC

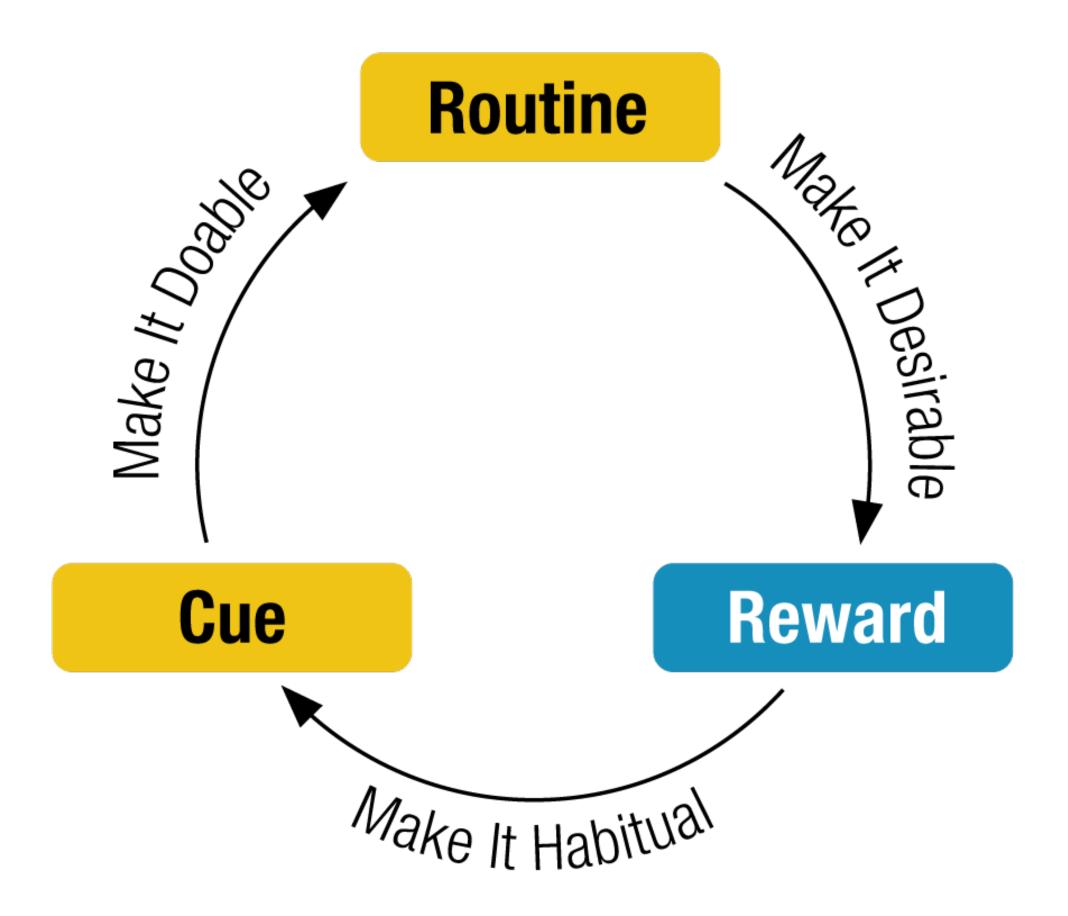
INTRINSIC

A tangible item you receive in exchange for completing some task or routine.

An intangible, pleasing feeling you experience when you align with your values and needs.

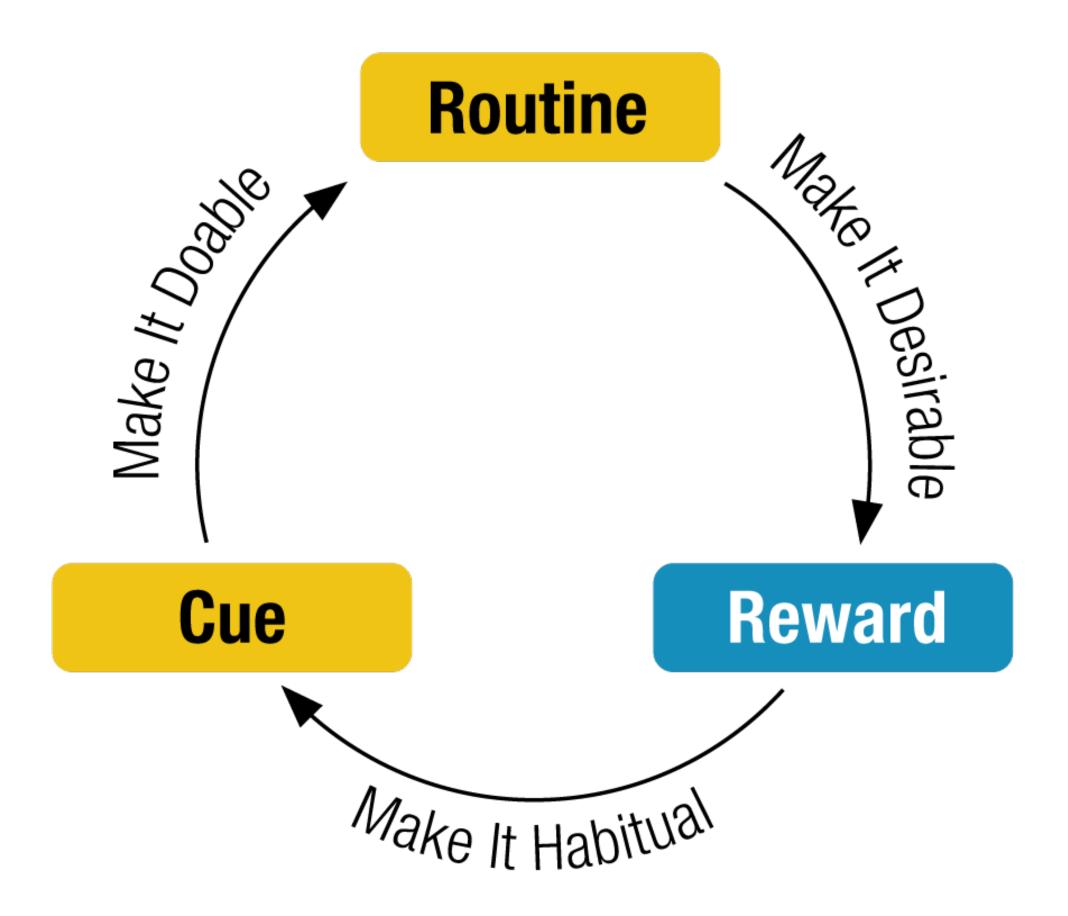
#### A Reward Is...

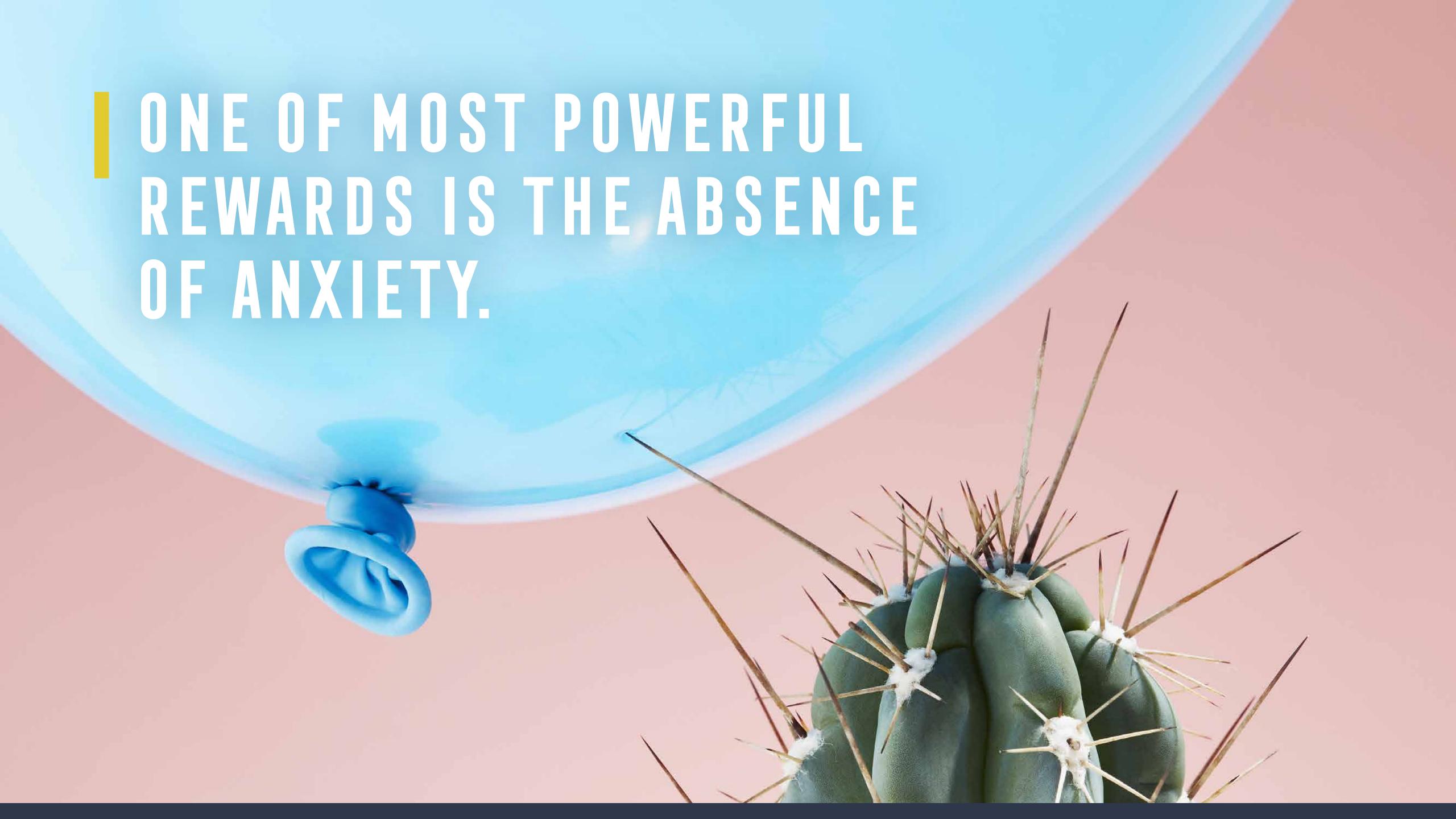
a signal to your brain in the moment that a particular loop is worth remembering and repeating.



#### A Reward is NOT...

a long-term outcome you achieve from establishing the habit.





#### Quarantine Habits

- Bedtime ice cream
- Netflix binge
- Social media mindlessness
- Arguing
- "Because I said so"
- Procrastination



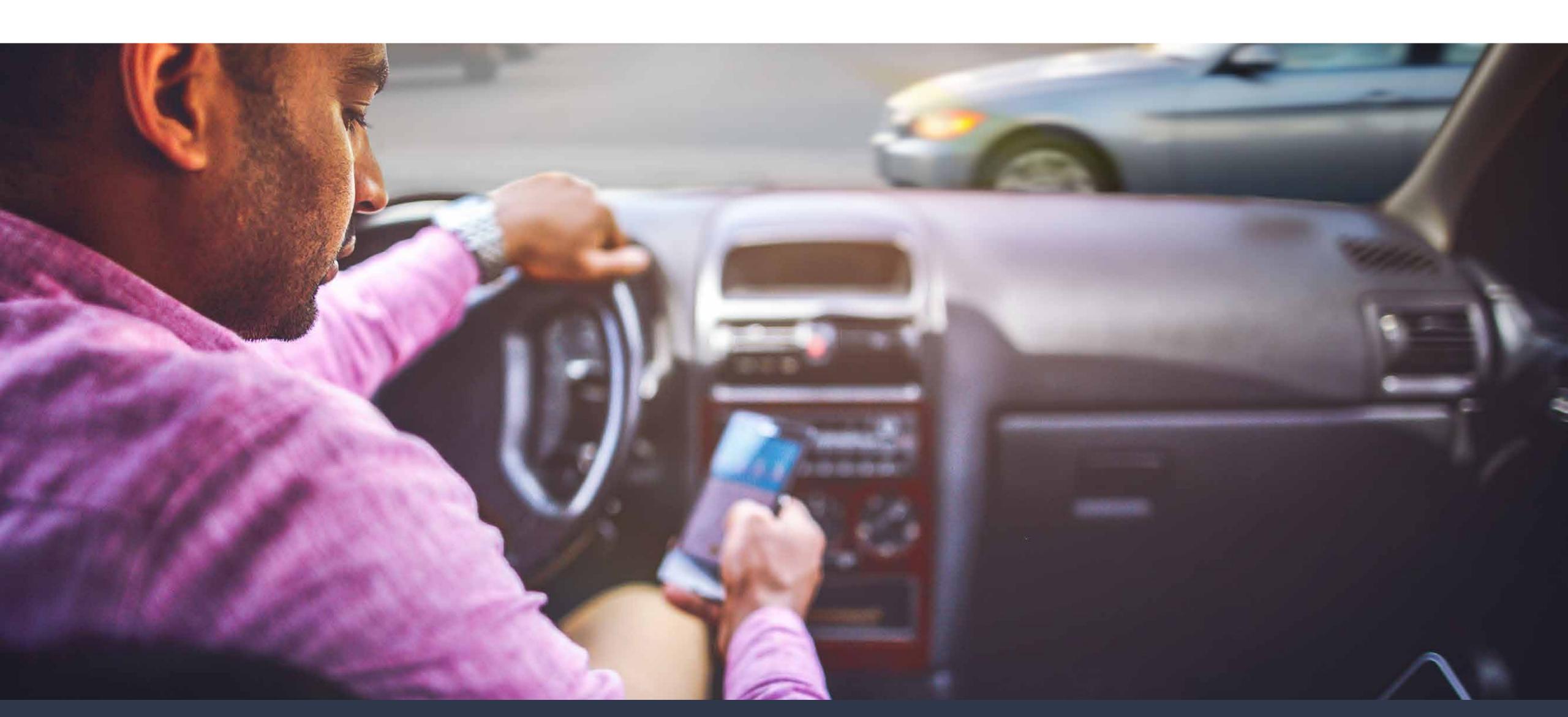
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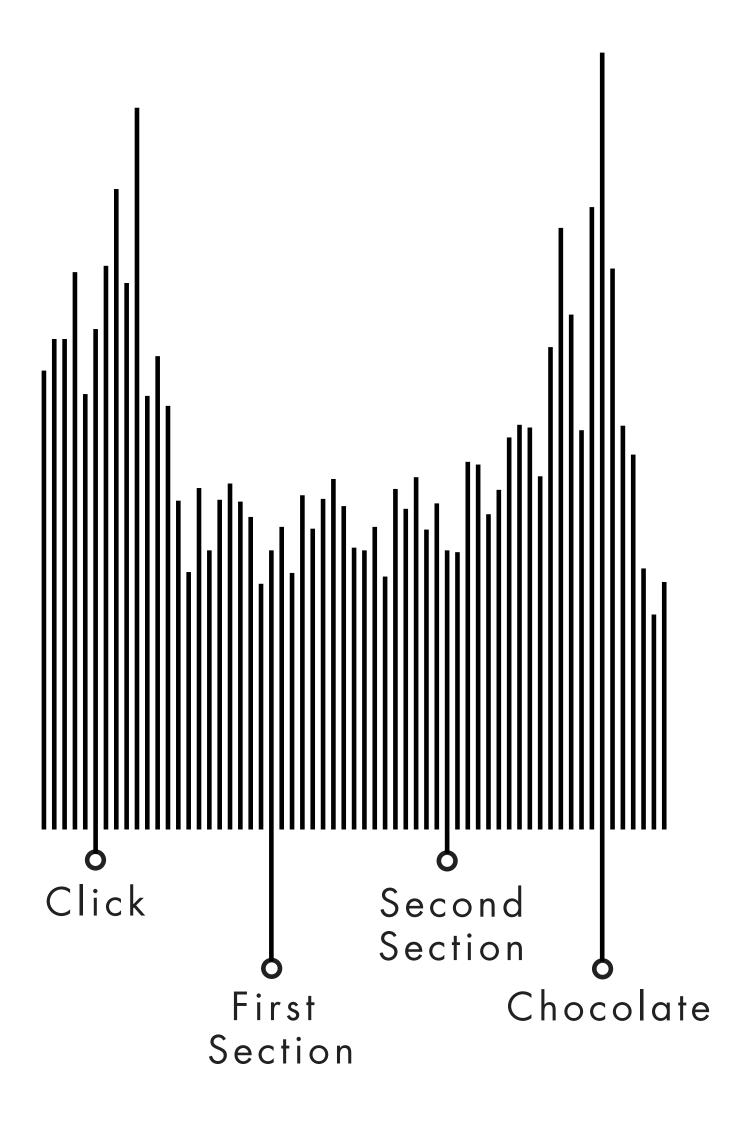
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#### Know YOUR Rewards

Understand your own drivers so you can link them to the routines you want.

#### I know I shouldn't but...



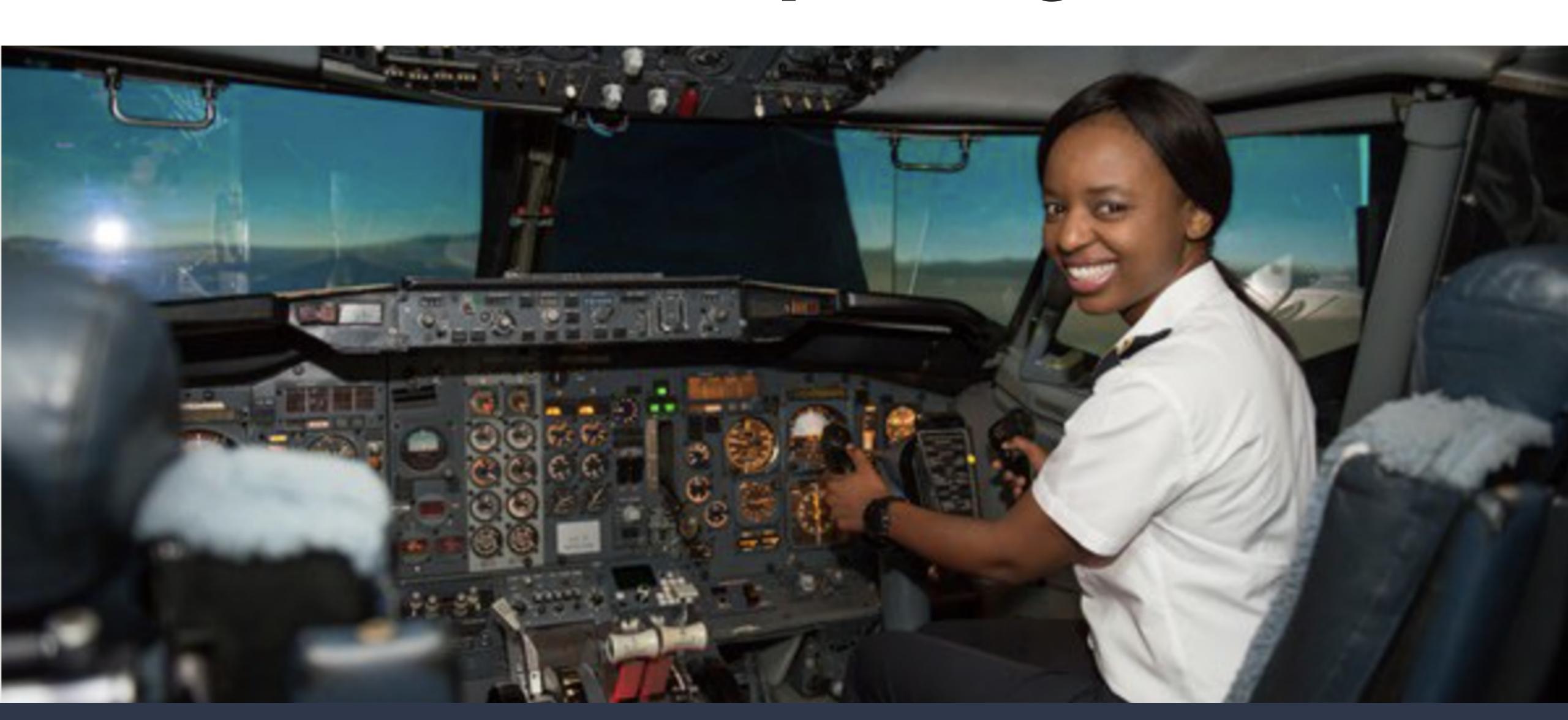


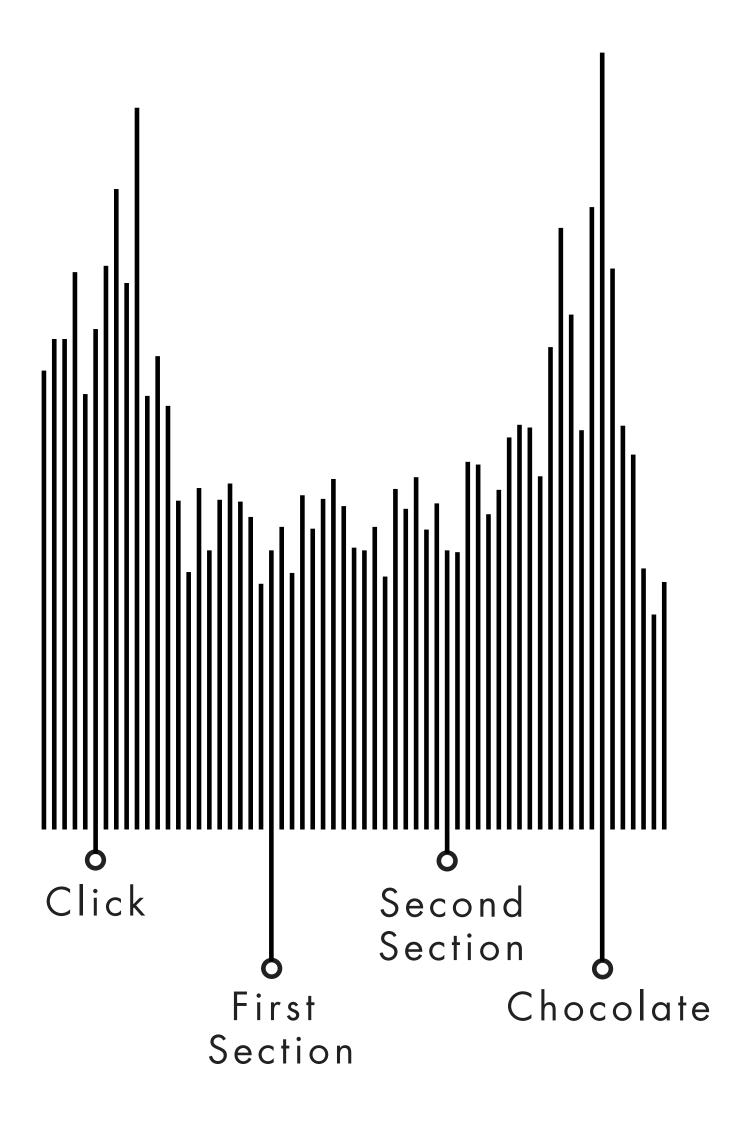
# Which of these emotions have you felt at some point in the last six weeks?

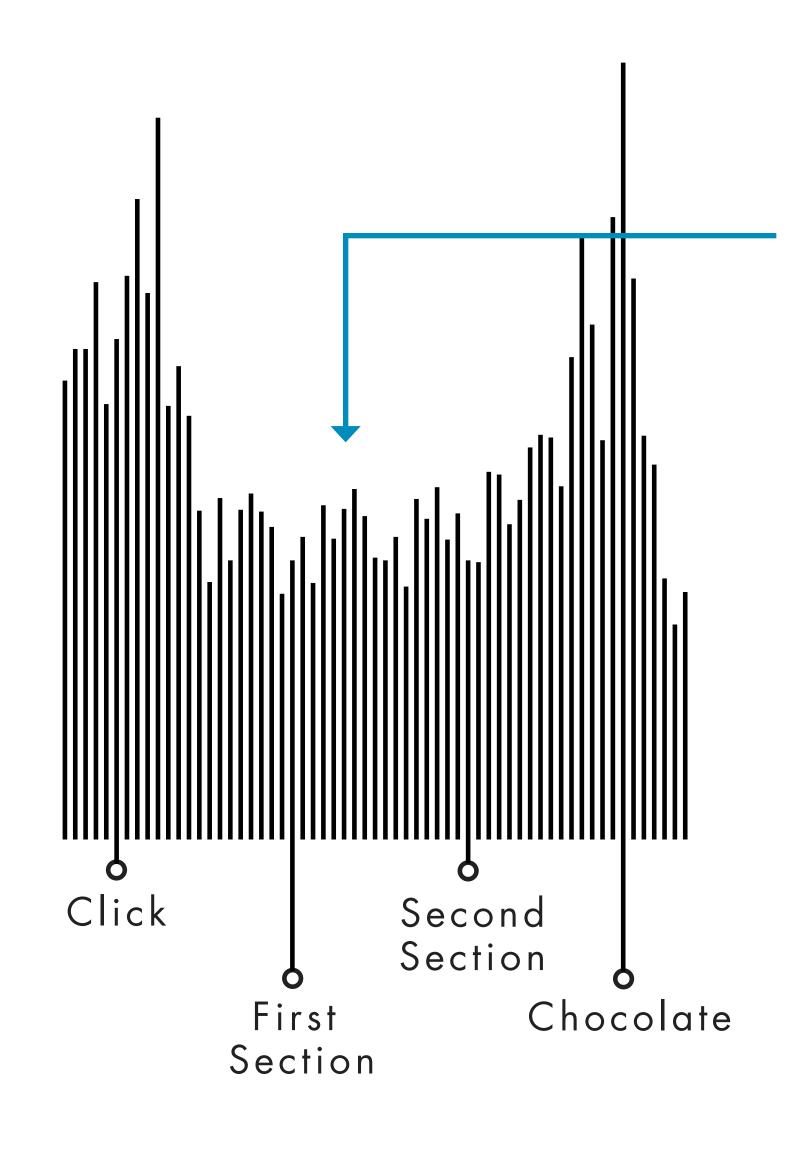
- Stressed
- Tired
- Overwhelmed

- Anxious
- Frightened

#### You're not on autopilot right now.







#### 40% of our day

REENGAGE YOUR AUTOPILOT BY BUILDING NEW HABITS AND REENGINEERING OLD ONES.



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# How to Lead Through the COVID-19 Crisis and Its Aftermath

With Joseph Grenny, Justin Hale, and Emily Gregory

#### Thank you!

Visit us at **vitalsmarts.com/besafefeelsafe** to watch a bonus, 30-minute, on-demand webinar from Joseph Grenny on how to incorporate the insights and skills we've shared with you into your plan for doing business in an ongoing pandemic.

You can also access any of the webinars in this series at: https://go.vitalsmarts.com/CrucialSkillsWebinarSeries-Recording.html