	Specific Student Responses in Each Phase of Acting Out Behavior							
Calm Cooperative Students exhibit appropriate, cooperative behavior and are responsive to staff directions, number of students, and/or events that escalate.	Triggers Unresolved Conflicts  Triggers are activities, events, or behaviors that provoke anxiety and set off the cycle of unexpected behavior.	Agitation Unfocused  Characterized by emotional responses (e.g., anger, depression, worry, anxiety, and frustra- tion).	Acceleration Focused/Intense  Escalated behaviors intended to test limits. Students exhibit engaging behavior that is highly likely to obtain a response from another person – typically the teacher.	Peak Most Severe Students using acting-out behavior may be a threat to themselves or others.	De-escalation Confused  This phase is characterized by student disengagement and reduced acting-out behavior.	Recovery Non-engage/ Alone This is a period of regaining the equilibrium of the calm phase.		

note

## **De-escalation Cycle**

		C	C+			
		Specii	fic Student Resp	onses		
Calm Cooperative  Sitting or Standing Calmly  Working on Assignment, drawing, writing, chatting with peers  Smiling, re- laxed posture	Triggers Unresolved Conflict  Student stops engaging with work or peers  May sigh or slump shoul- ders  May say "Hey!" or "Quit!"	Agitation Unfocused  Darting Eyes/ Busy Hands  Withdrawal from Groups  Changes Focus quickly and often  Uses one word terse responses  Excessive movement or activity	Acceleration Focused/Intense  • Questioning and arguing • Refusal to cooperate • Use inappropriate voice level	Peak Most Severe Destruction of property Tantrums Pushing others	De-escalation Confused  · Withdraw/head down  · Denial/blaming others  · Avoidance of discussion or debriefing  · Lack of re- sponsiveness to activities or direction	Recovery Non-engage alone  • Eagerness for independent work or activi  • Subdued be- havior in class discussion or group work  • Cautious, quie
				5. Peak		
		. Agitation			б. De-esca	llation
2. Trig 1. Calm		. Agitation			6. De-esca	llation 7. Recovery
			c Staff/Adult Re	sponse	6. De-esca	
			c Staff/Adult Re Safety	sponse Crisis Intervention	Remove Excess Attention	

Encourage

and support

the student in

changing problem behaviors

Document the

vide for future

safety

incident to pro-