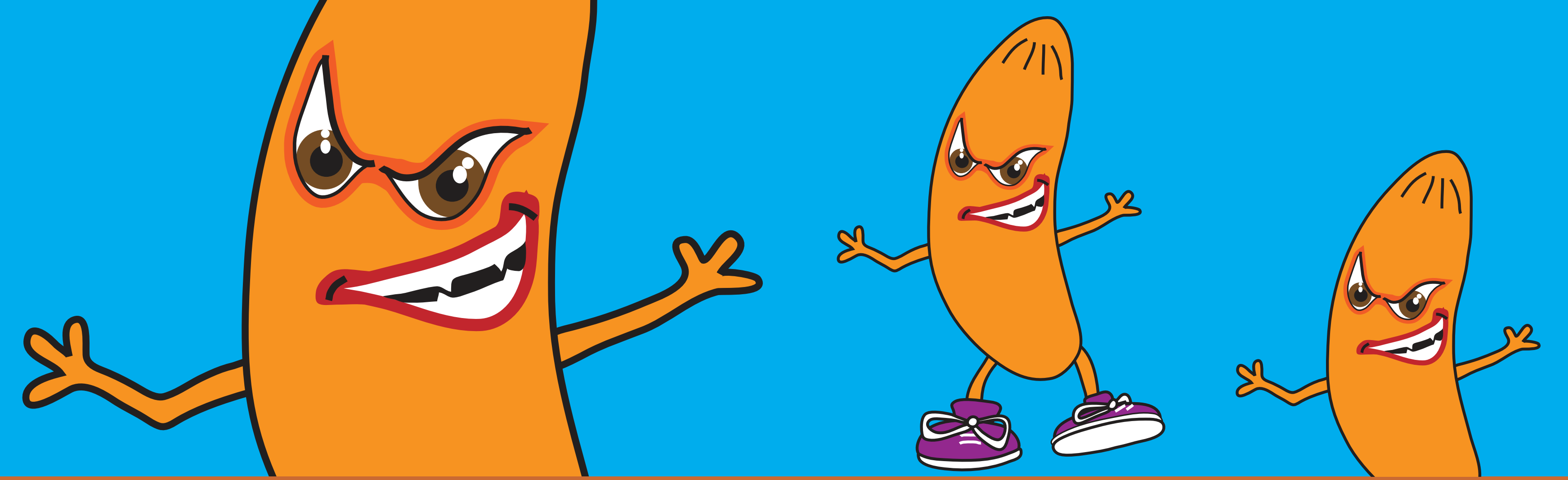
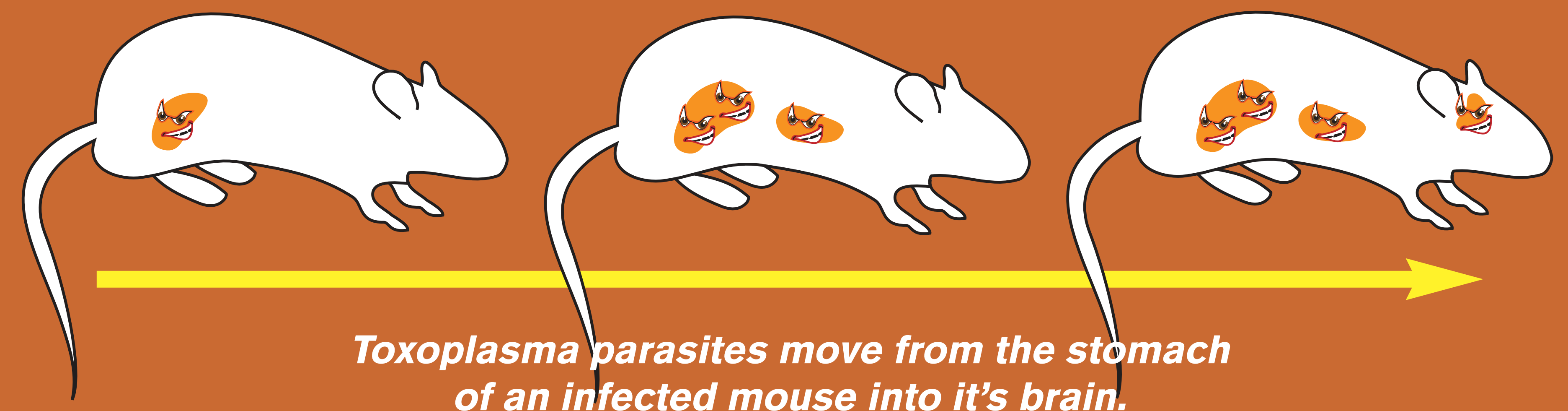


# Brave New Mouse



*Toxoplasma* can cause changes in the behaviour of the animals it infects. Mice with *Toxoplasma* have no fear of cats! They are also far more adventurous and like to investigate new places, new kinds of food and become much more curious.

**Why?** By making the mice more adventurous and fearless the *Toxoplasma* is making it far more likely that the mouse will be eaten by a cat – the host that it eventually wants to end up in.



**How?** *Toxoplasma* works its way through the mouse to the part of its brain that causes fear and then stops the mouse from feeling scared.

What an amazingly clever parasite!

