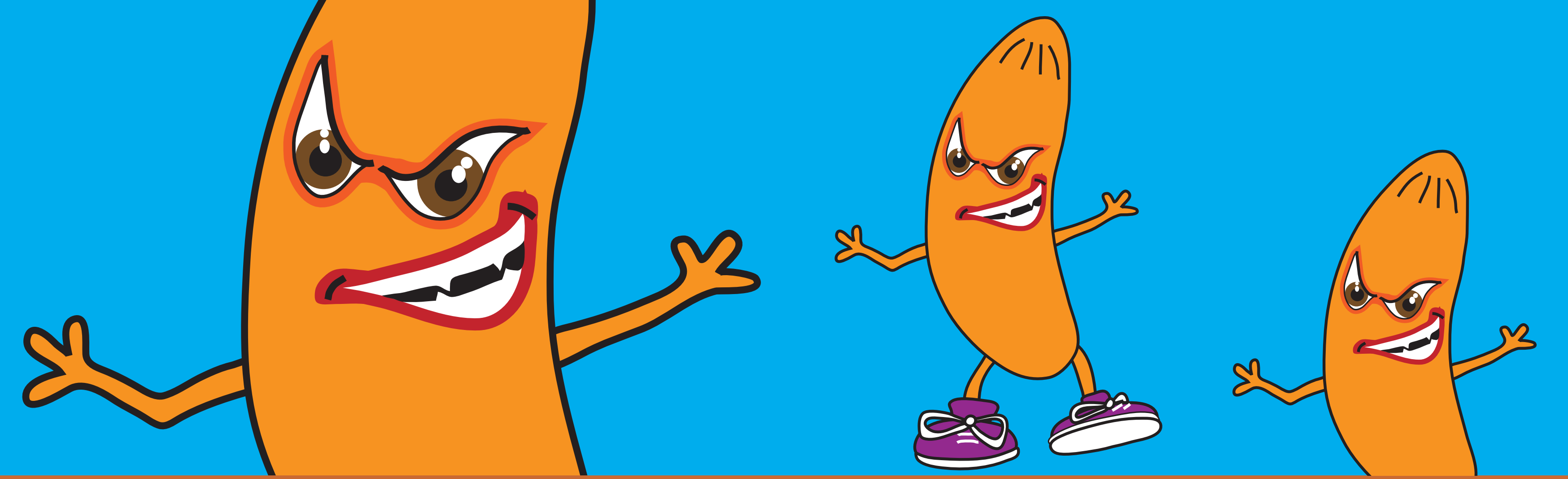
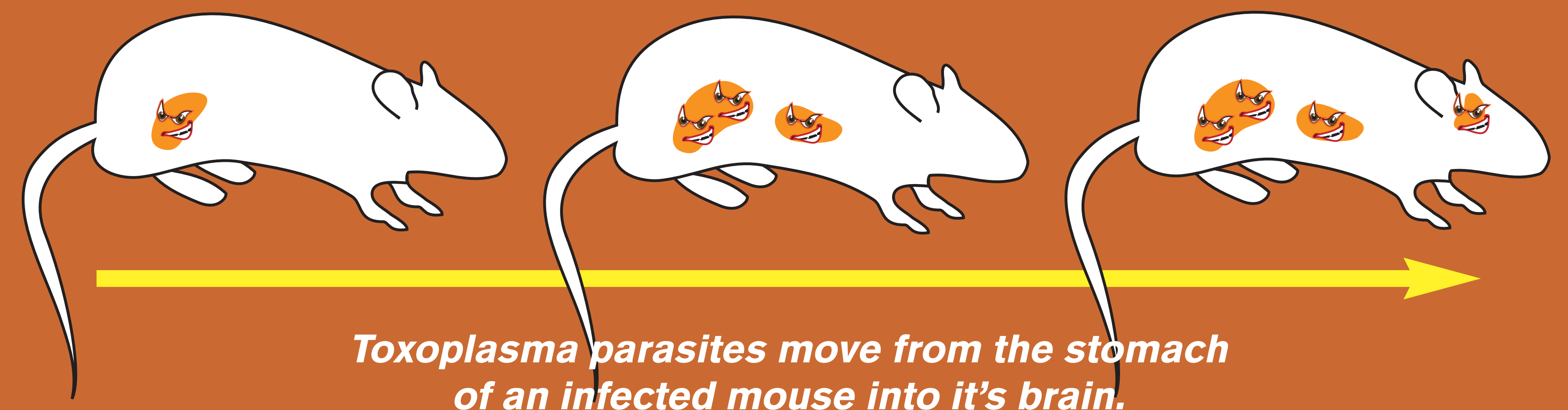


Brave New Mouse



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!

