

Ebook adapted from the TV series



ubongo kids

by ubongo

The logo for 'ubongo kids' is located in the top left corner. It features the word 'ubongo' in a blue, rounded font with a black outline, and 'kids' in a smaller, green, rounded font with a black outline. The background of the logo is a small, stylized illustration of a tree and foliage.

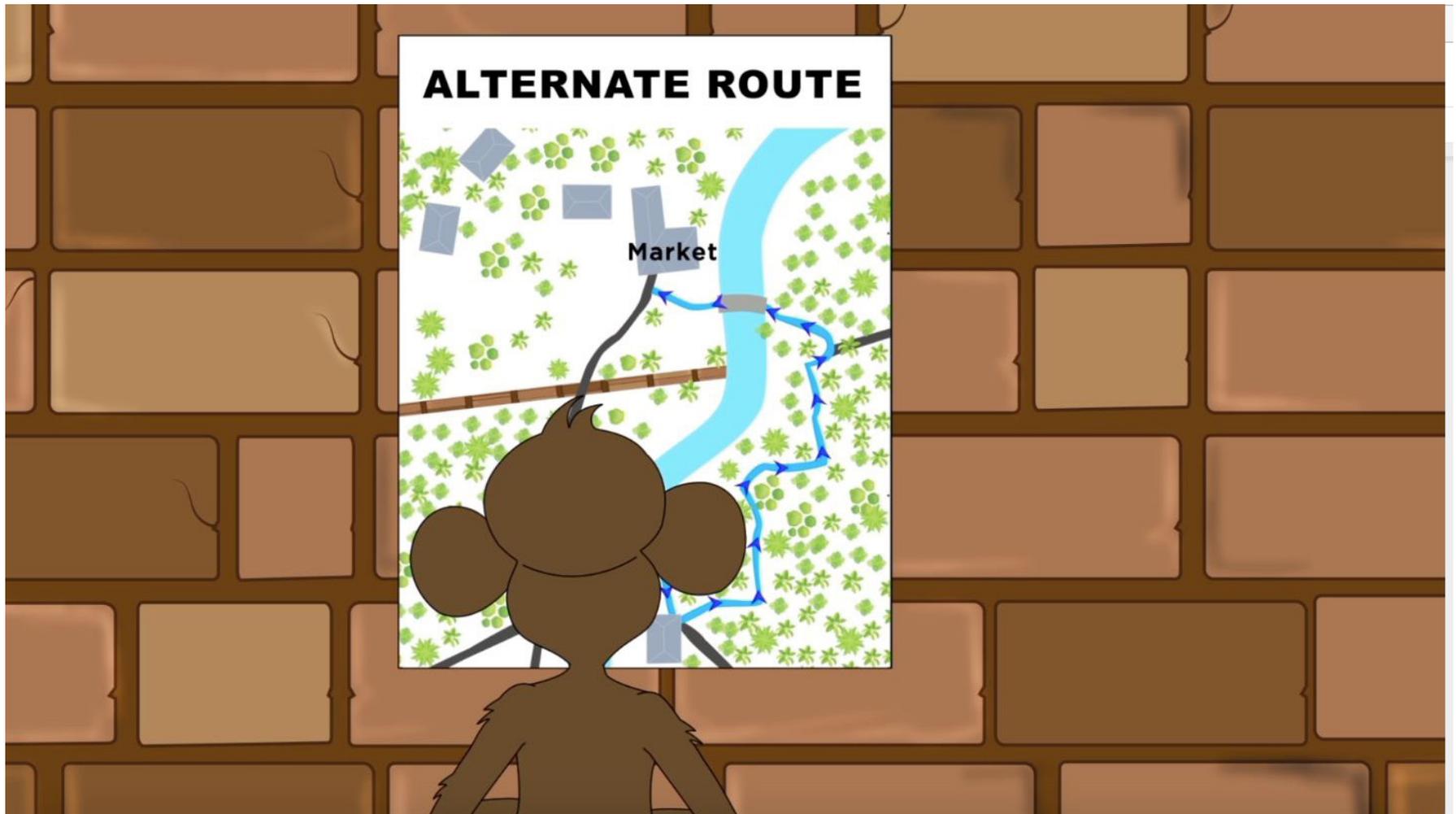
ubongo kids

# growth mindset

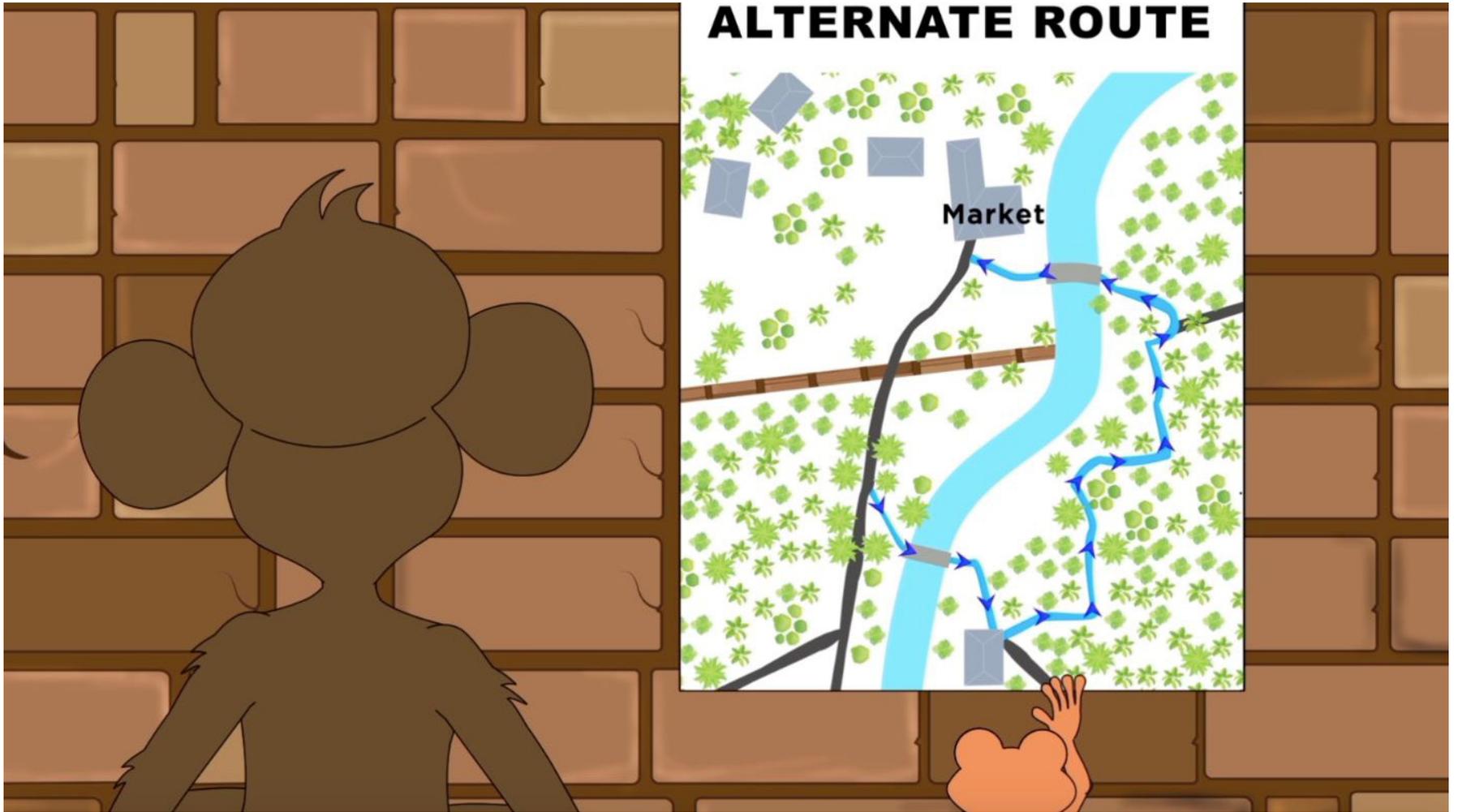
believing you can grow your  
smarts, skills and talents



Ngedere headed along the forest road, on his way to town. His cart was full of fruit to sell at the market. He was looking forward to buying pilau with the money he earned.



Suddenly he saw a big stone wall blocking the road. A sign on the wall read 'ALTERNATE ROUTE', and there was a map showing a new path through the forest.



Ngedere could not read the map, no matter how he looked at it. Luckily, Da Chura arrived. Da Chura could read the map easily!



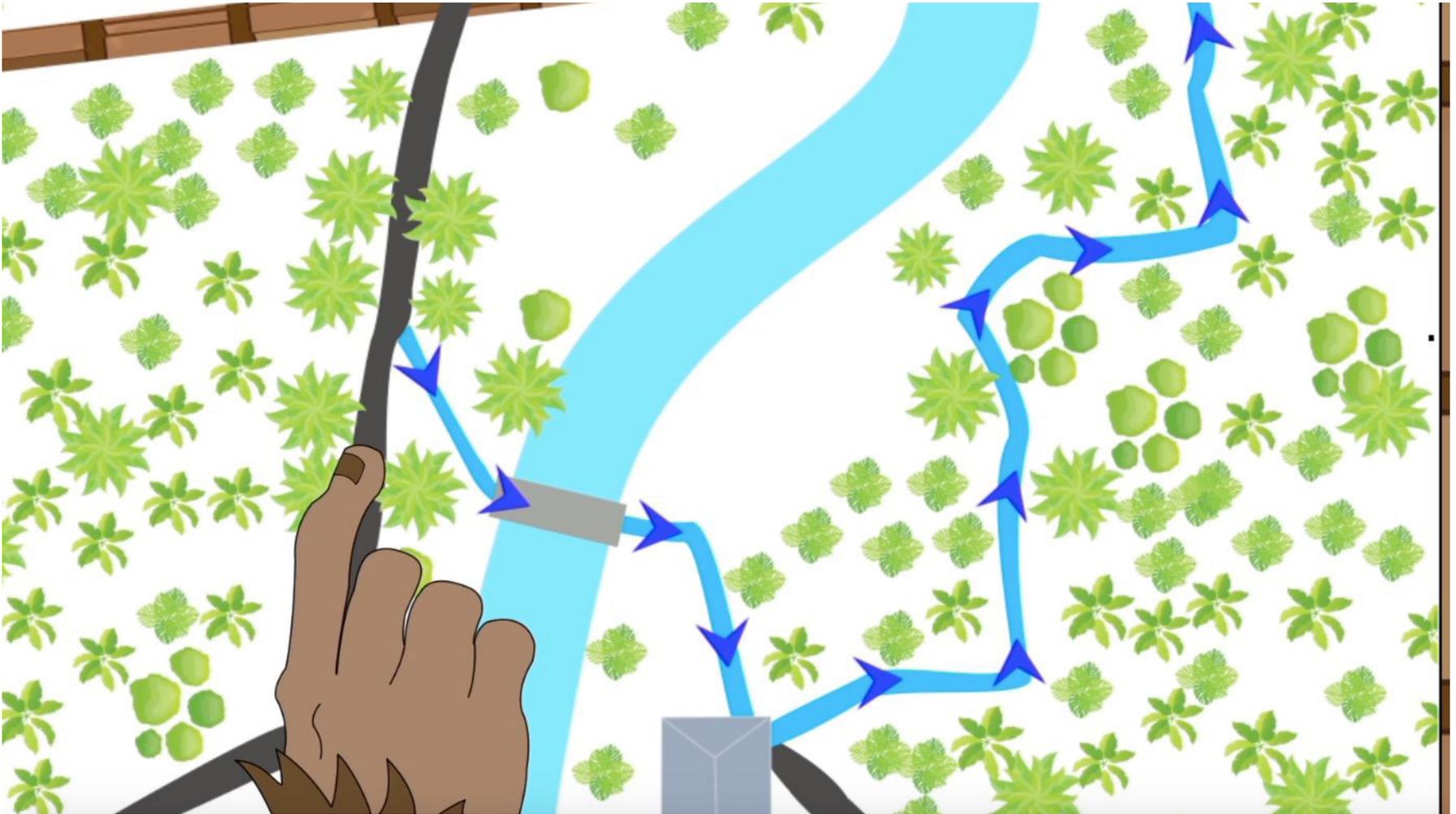
Ngedere followed Da Chura along the new path. It was hard for him to keep up! Pieces of fruit flew out of his cart, but he had to leave them behind to keep up with Da Chura.



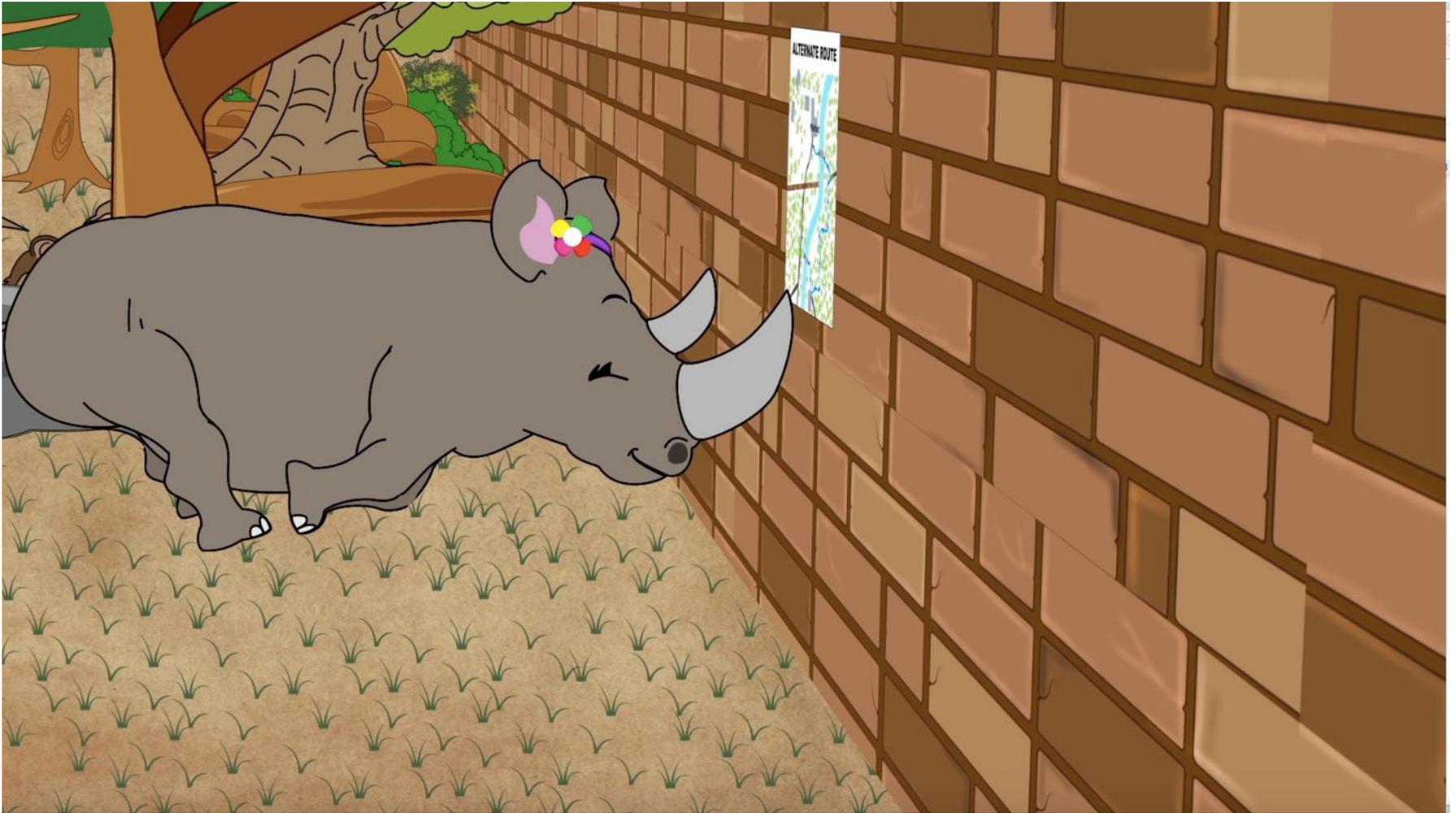
When they arrived at the market, Ngedere had hardly any fruit left in his cart. He felt sad that he didn't have much to sell.



The next day, Ngedere tried again. His cart was full of fruit.



But the wall was still there! He said to himself, “It’s no use, I can’t read the map. My brain isn’t big enough or smart enough.”



All of a sudden there was a rustling noise in the bushes nearby. Ngedere thought someone had come to help him. It was a rhinoceros, charging at the wall! She rammed her head into the wall, but the wall still stood.



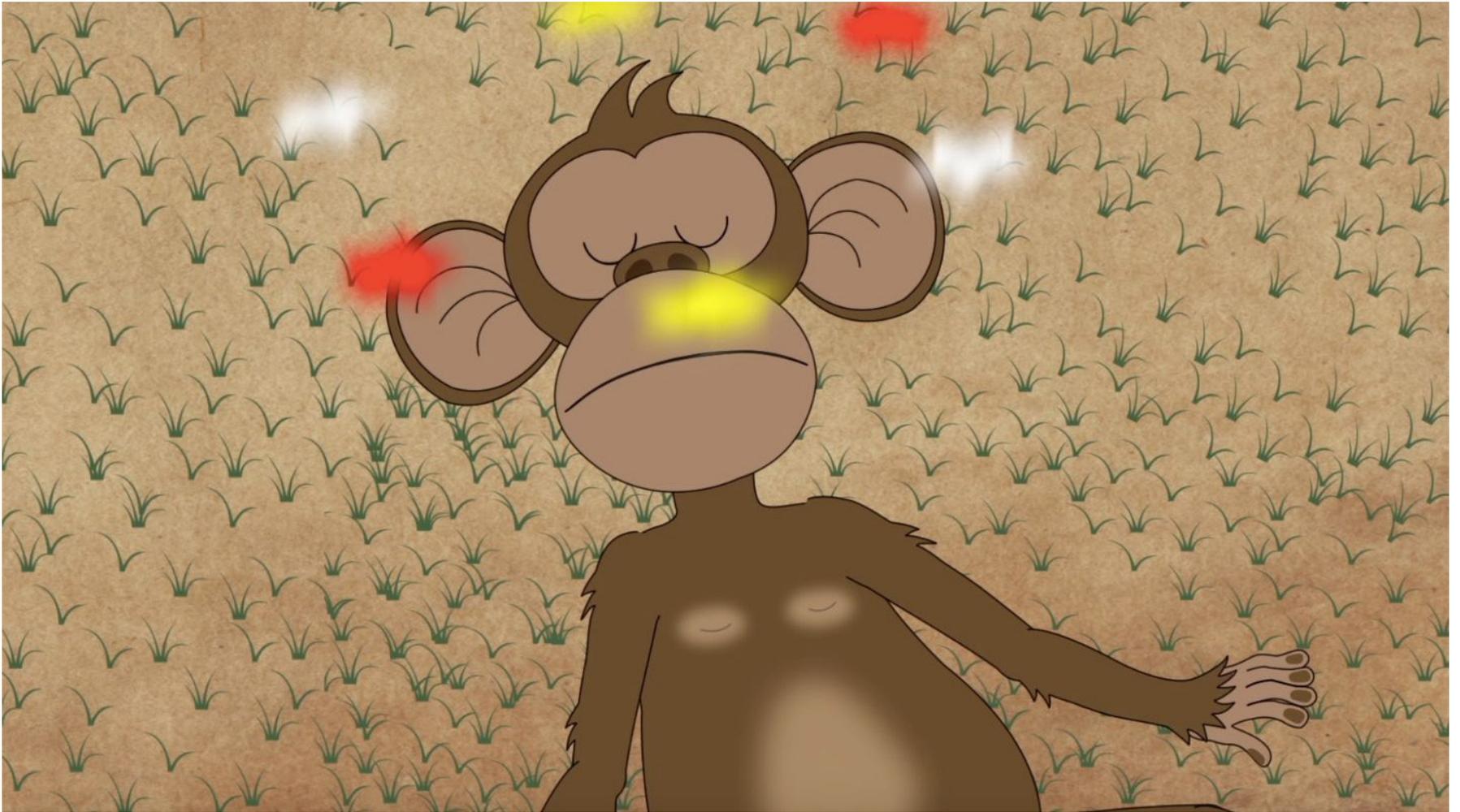
The rhinoceros introduced herself to Ngedere. “I’m Faraja Faru,” she said, “but people call me Fafa. I’m trying to get home, but this wall is in my way. I need to **KNOCK IT DOWN!**”



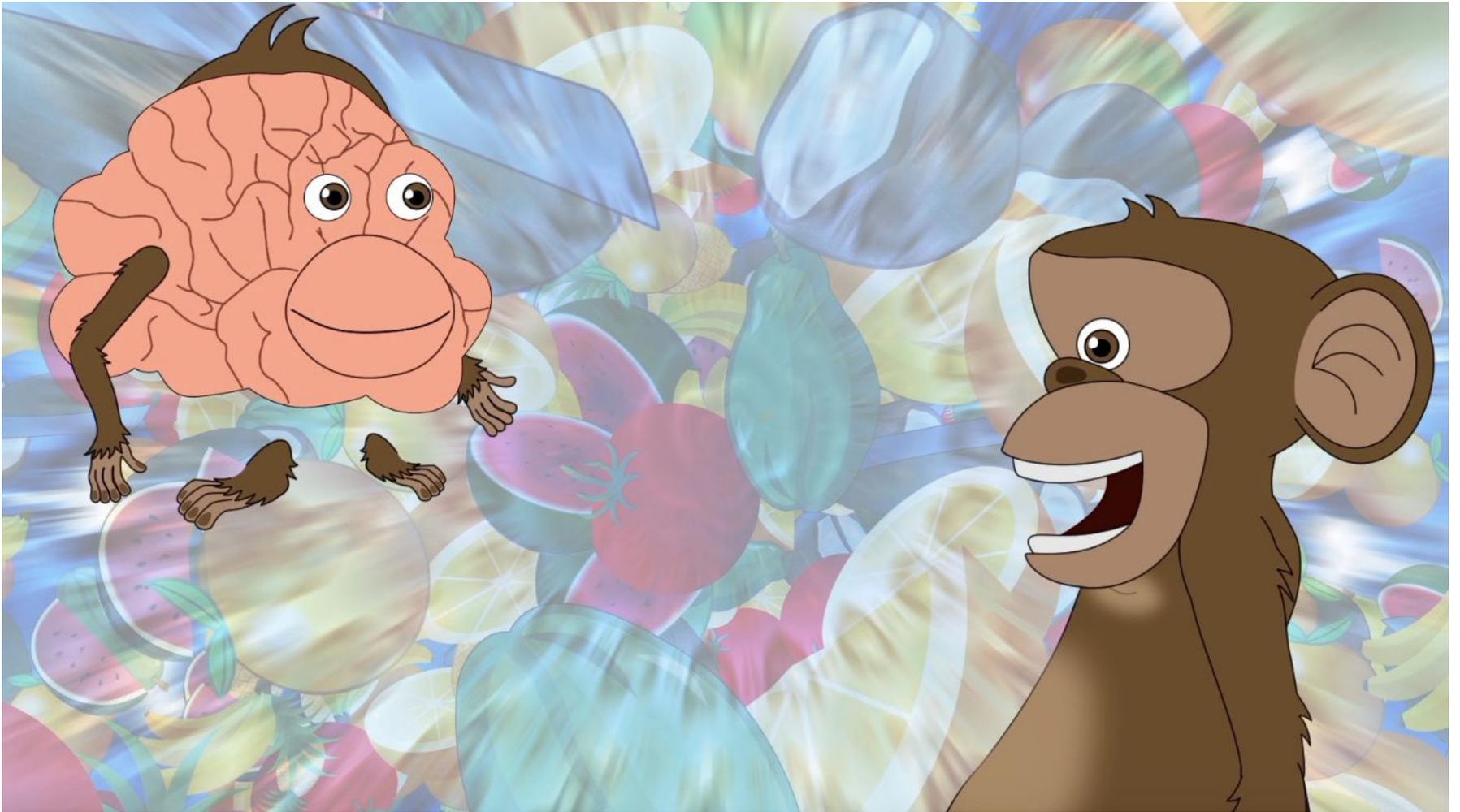
Ngedere suggested Fafa just follow the map instead. He thought Fafa must have a big brain in her big head. But Fafa could not read the map. “I’m really good at bashing,” she told Ngedere, “but not at reading maps.”



Ngedere decided to try bashing the wall down too...



...but he just banged his head and passed out! He woke up in a dream world – inside his own head!  
There he met his own brain!



Ngedere complained to his brain. “You are the reason I can’t read the map. You’re too small!” But the brain told Ngedere he had to train his brain; to feed it and give it exercise. “You’ve got to help me grow!” the brain told Ngedere.



Ngedere woke up back in the forest with Fafa leaning over him. “Are you okay?” Fafa asked. “I guess you are not a basher like me.”



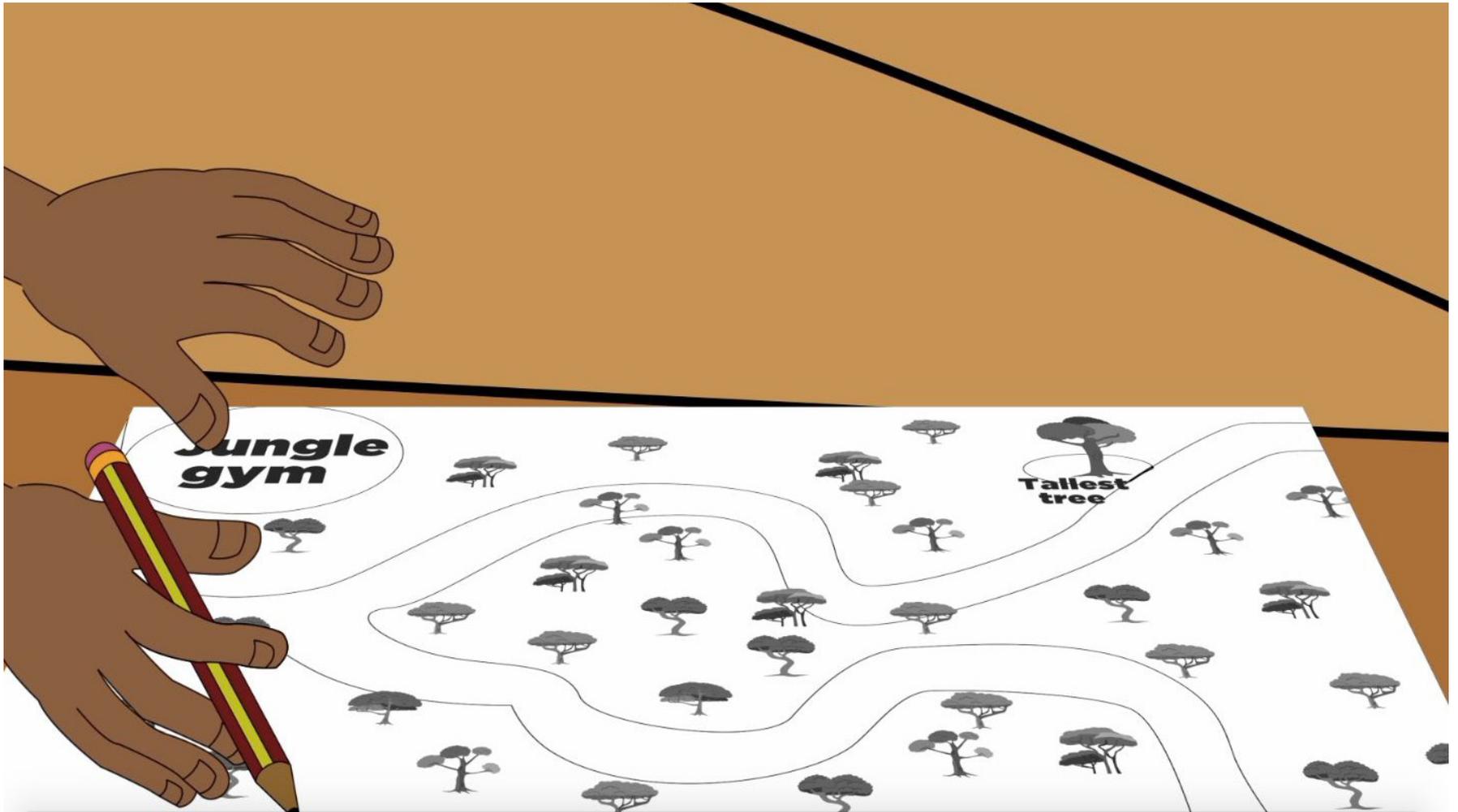
Ngedere knew what to do now. He headed for the Jungle Gym. But lifting weights didn't help his brain to grow...



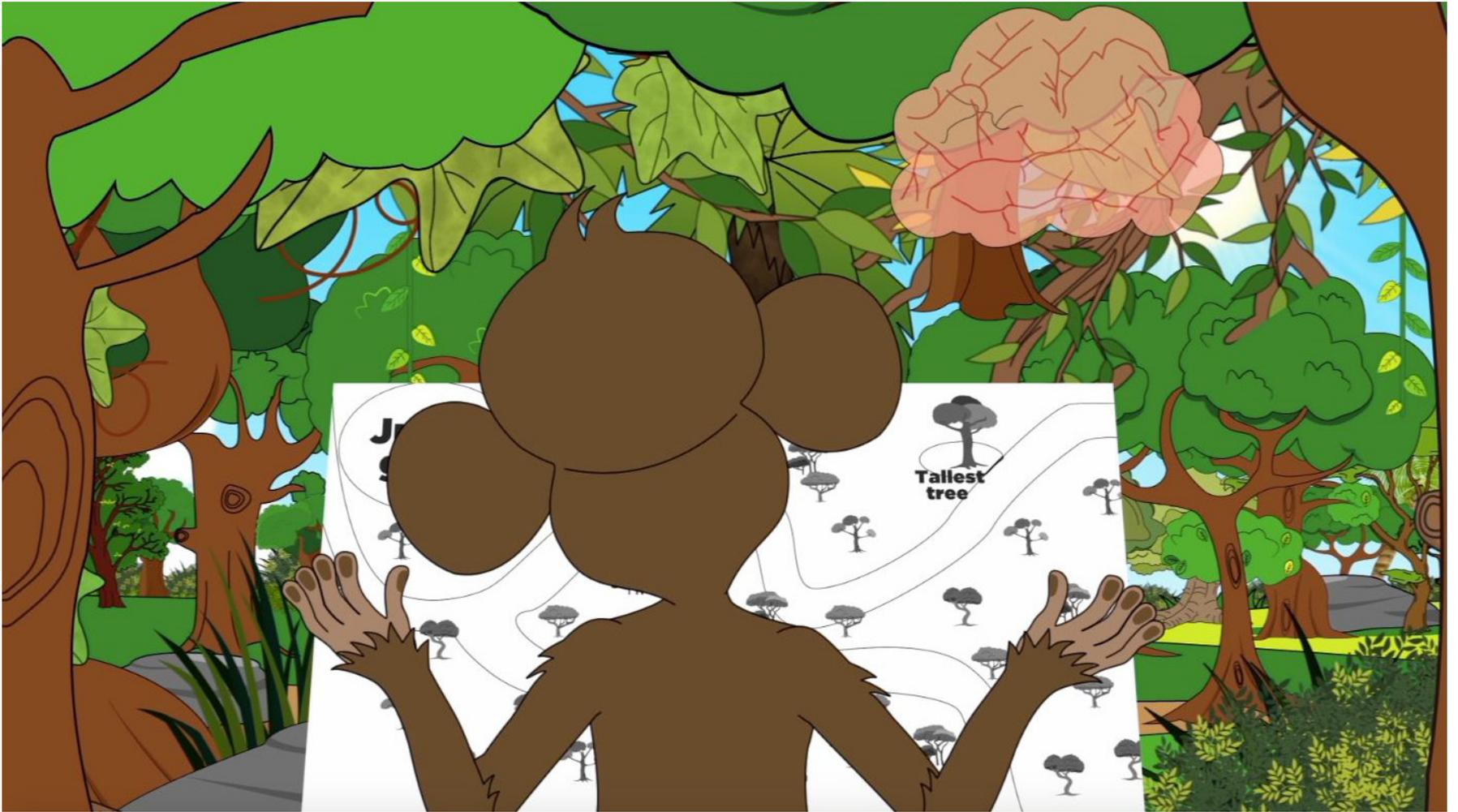
Nor did feeding his brain pilau by sticking it in his ears...



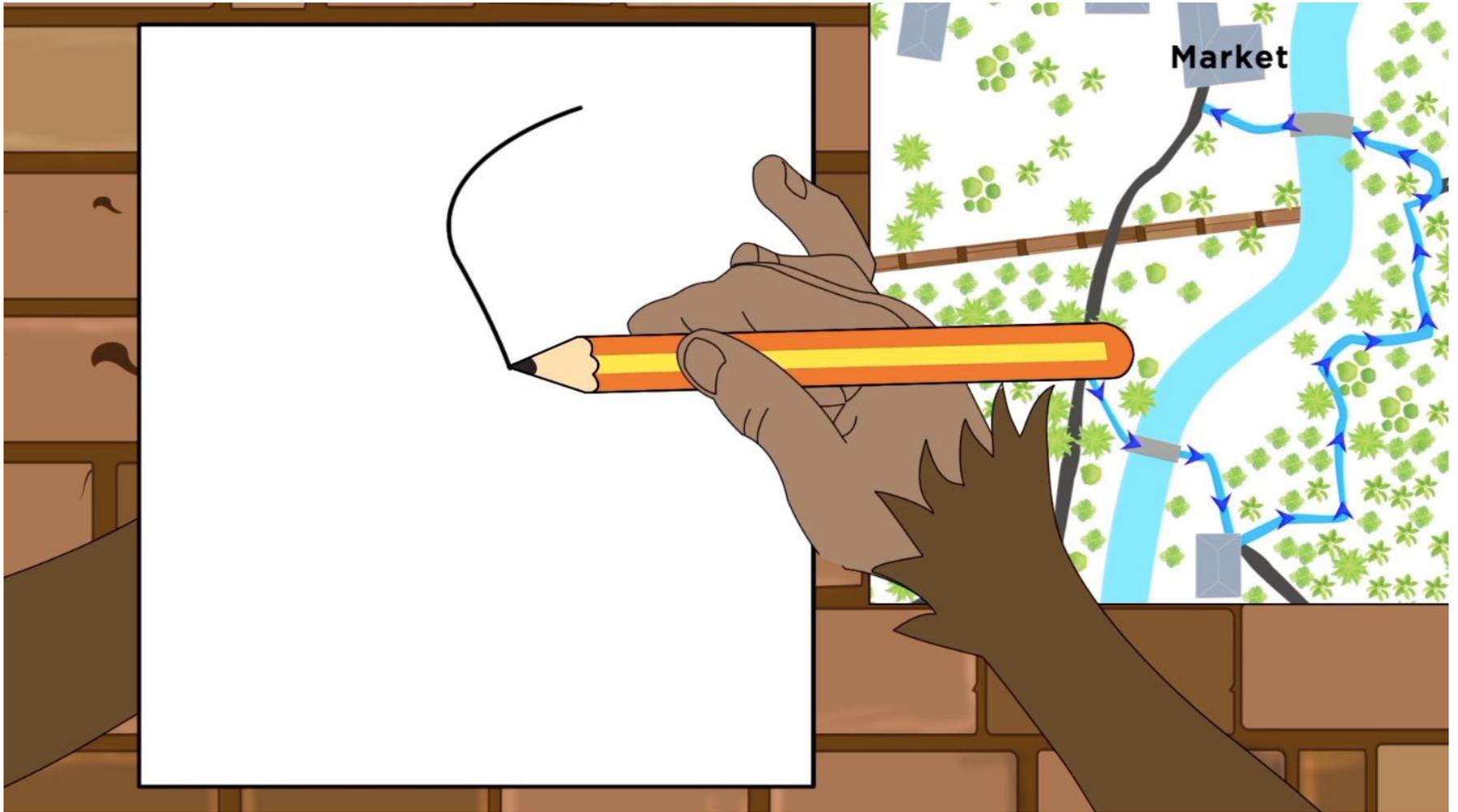
Then Ngedere saw Baraka. Baraka was swinging on a vine, but he kept falling off. “If I fail, it just means I have something new to learn,” he told Ngedere. “That’s how you GROW, one step at a time.”



Baraka told Ngedere how to grow his brain: Not by putting pilau in your ears, but by USING your brain to do hard things that you couldn't do before. Baraka offered to help Ngedere by drawing easy maps for him to practice.



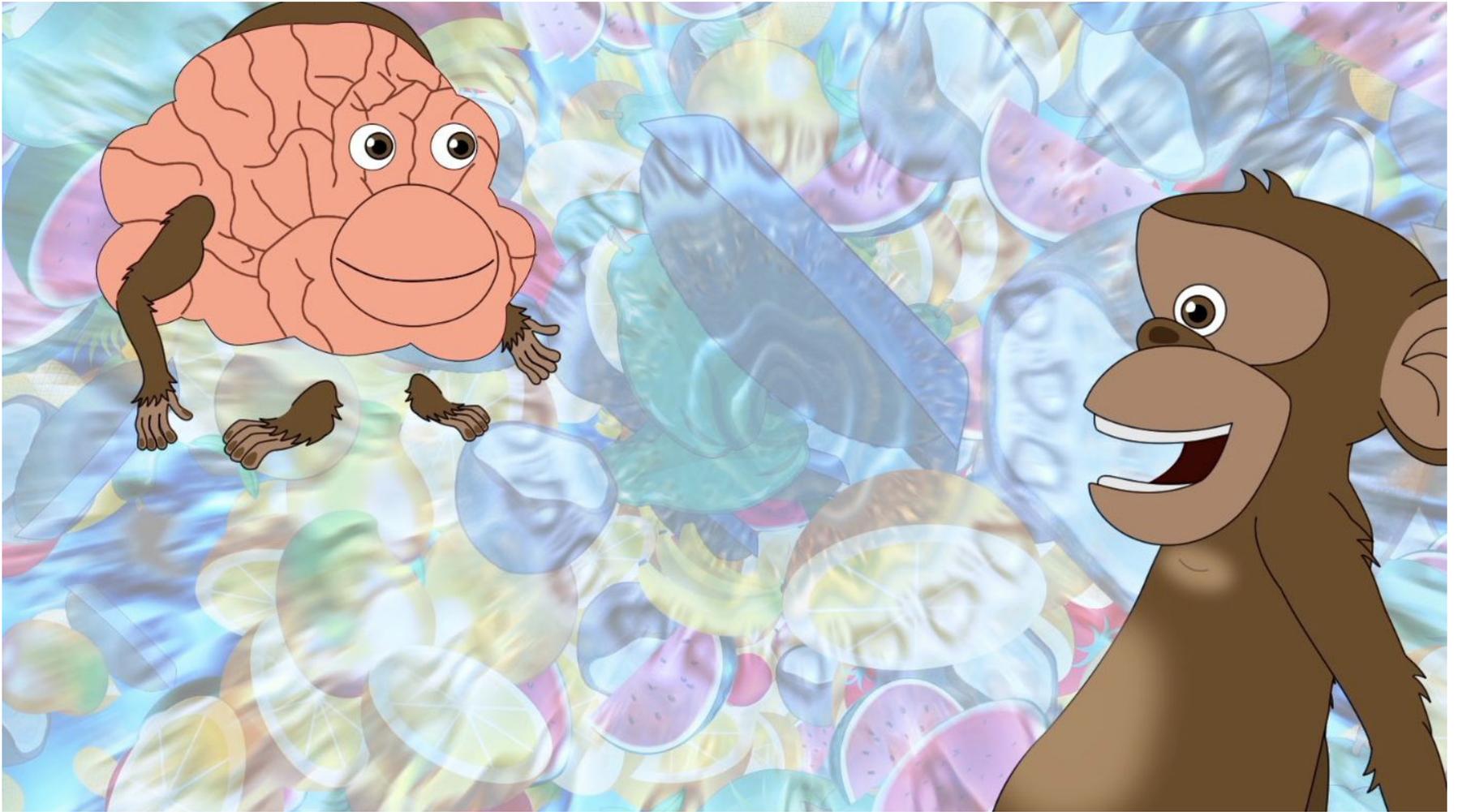
Ngedere followed the first map to the tall tree. Success!



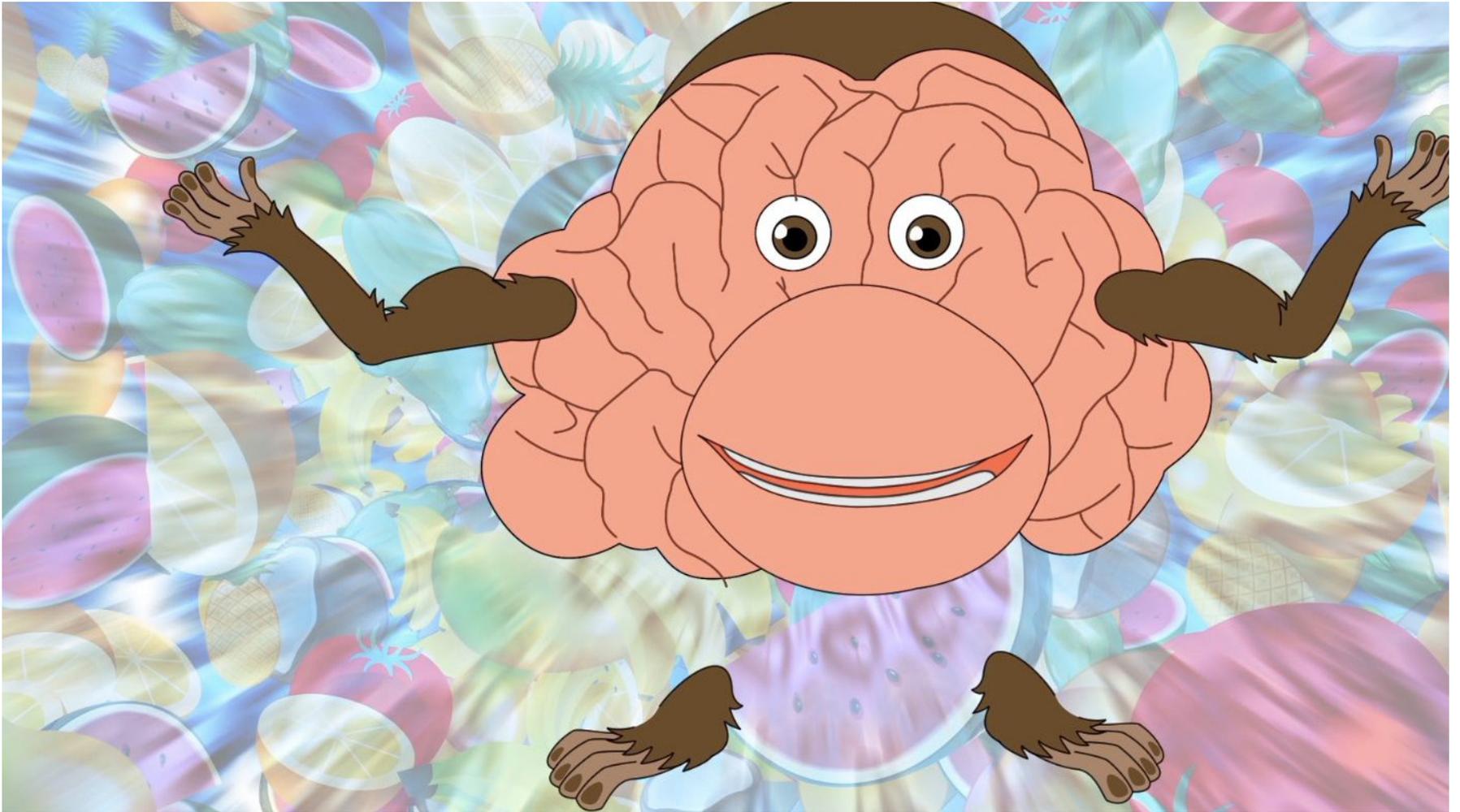
Each day, he followed maps that were harder and harder. Finally, he thought he was ready to try the big map of the route to the market. He took his cart of fruit, along with paper and crayons, to make a copy of the map for himself.



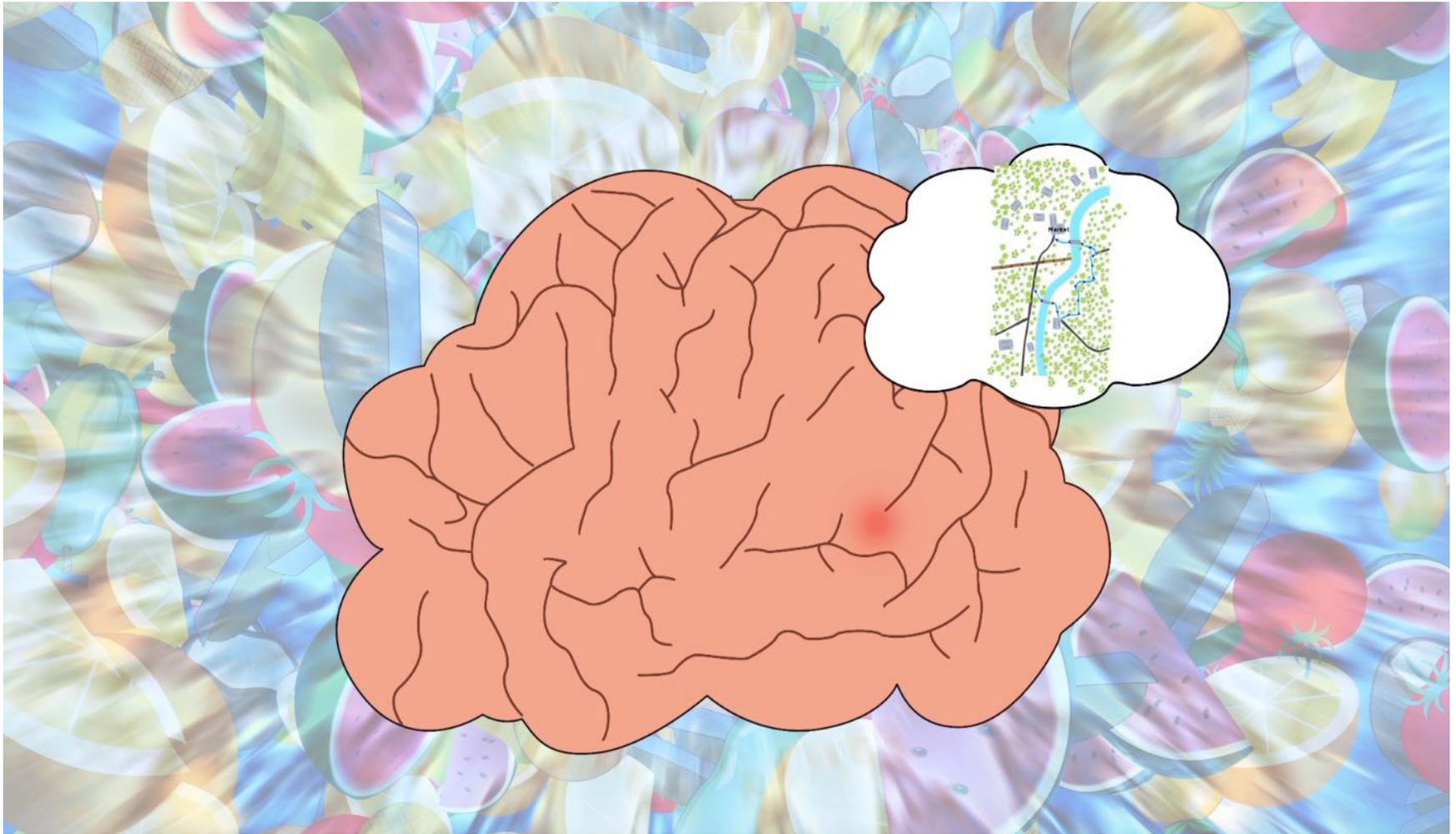
Fafa was still bashing the wall. She laughed when Ngedere told her that he was growing his brain. "You do that by practicing things that you aren't good at yet," he explained to her.



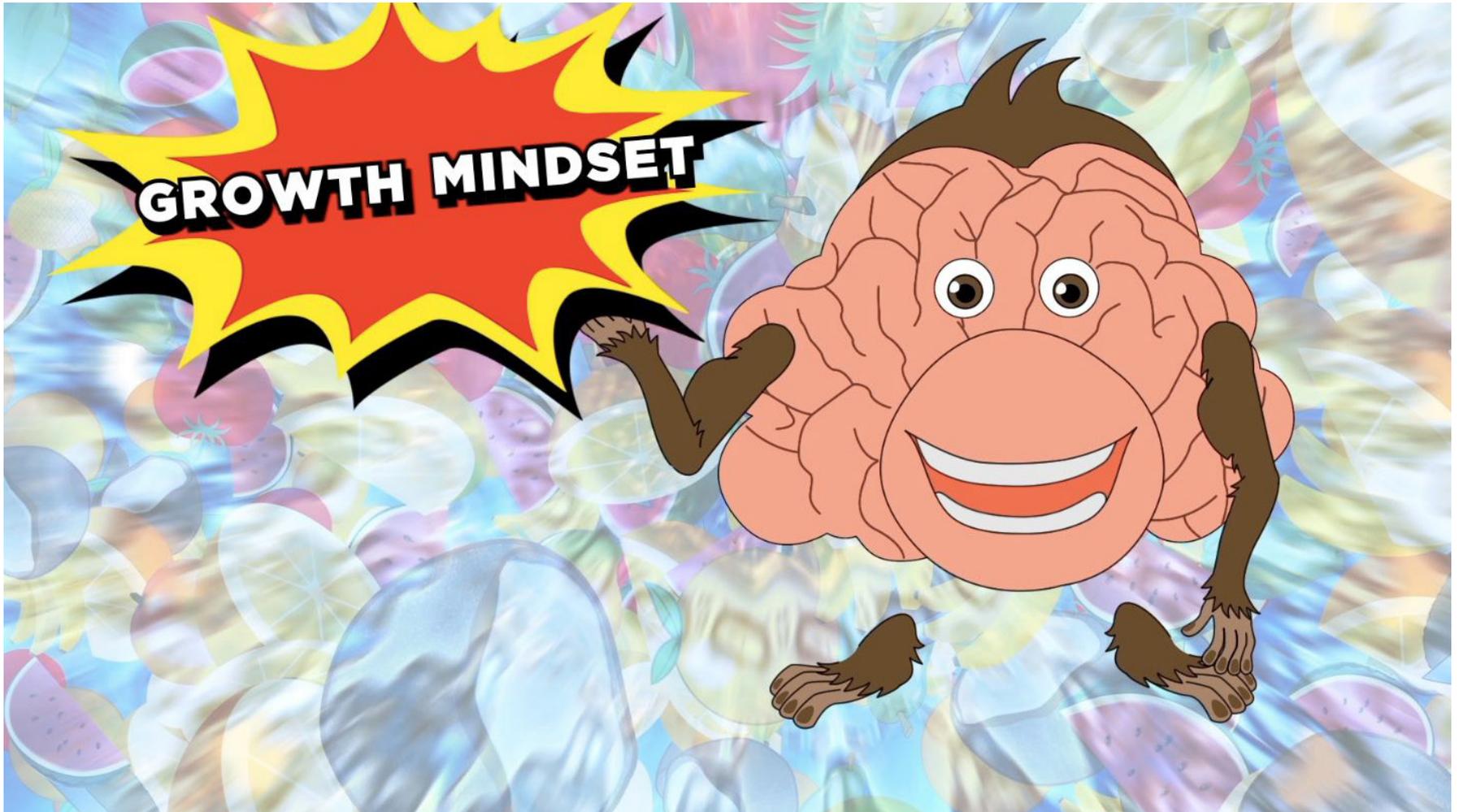
Fafa just kept bashing. She bashed so hard that she made Ngedere fall and knock his head against the wall again. Once again, he woke up, inside his own head.



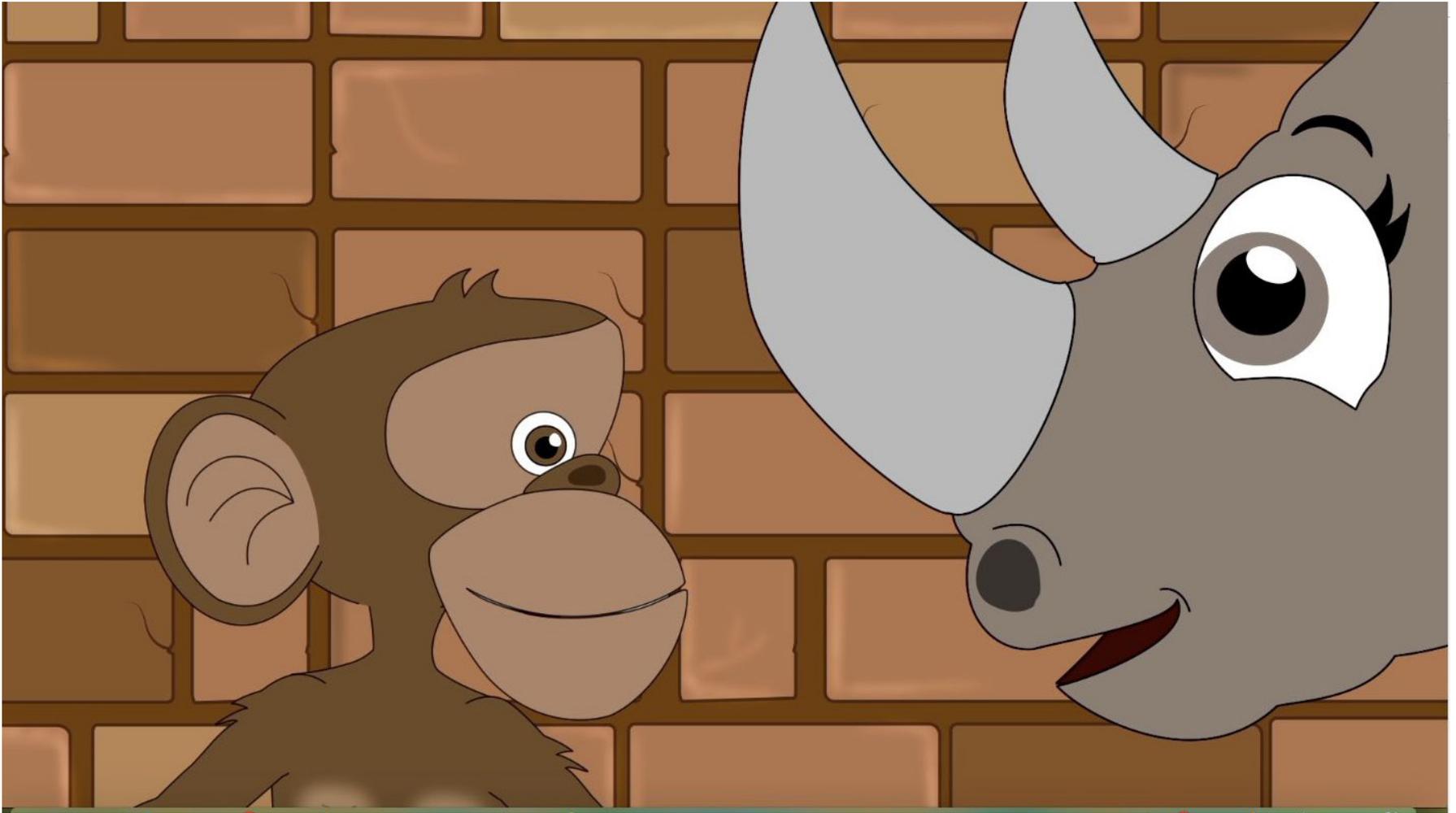
He found his brain in the same dream world, but now it looked bigger and stronger. “Thanks for the exercise,” the brain said to Ngedere. “I’ve been getting super strong!”



The brain explained that when you learn something new, you create a NEURAL PATHWAY – just like a new path in the forest. The more times you use the new pathway, the easier it gets.



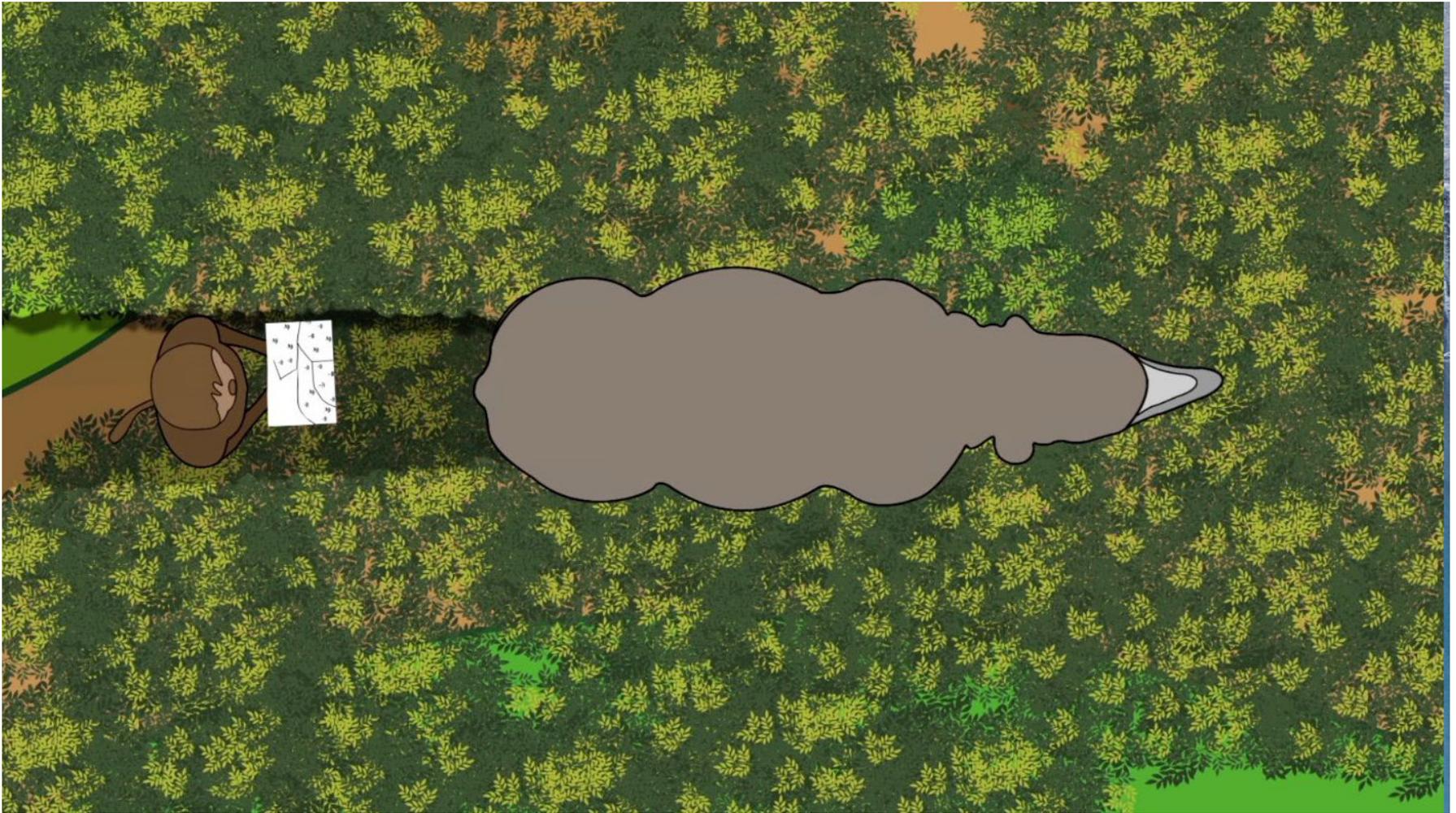
“You can use your brain to learn anything!” Ngedere’s brain told him. This time Ngedere agreed! He had a new **GROWTH MINDSET**, believing he could grow his brain, his skills and his talent through hard work and practice.



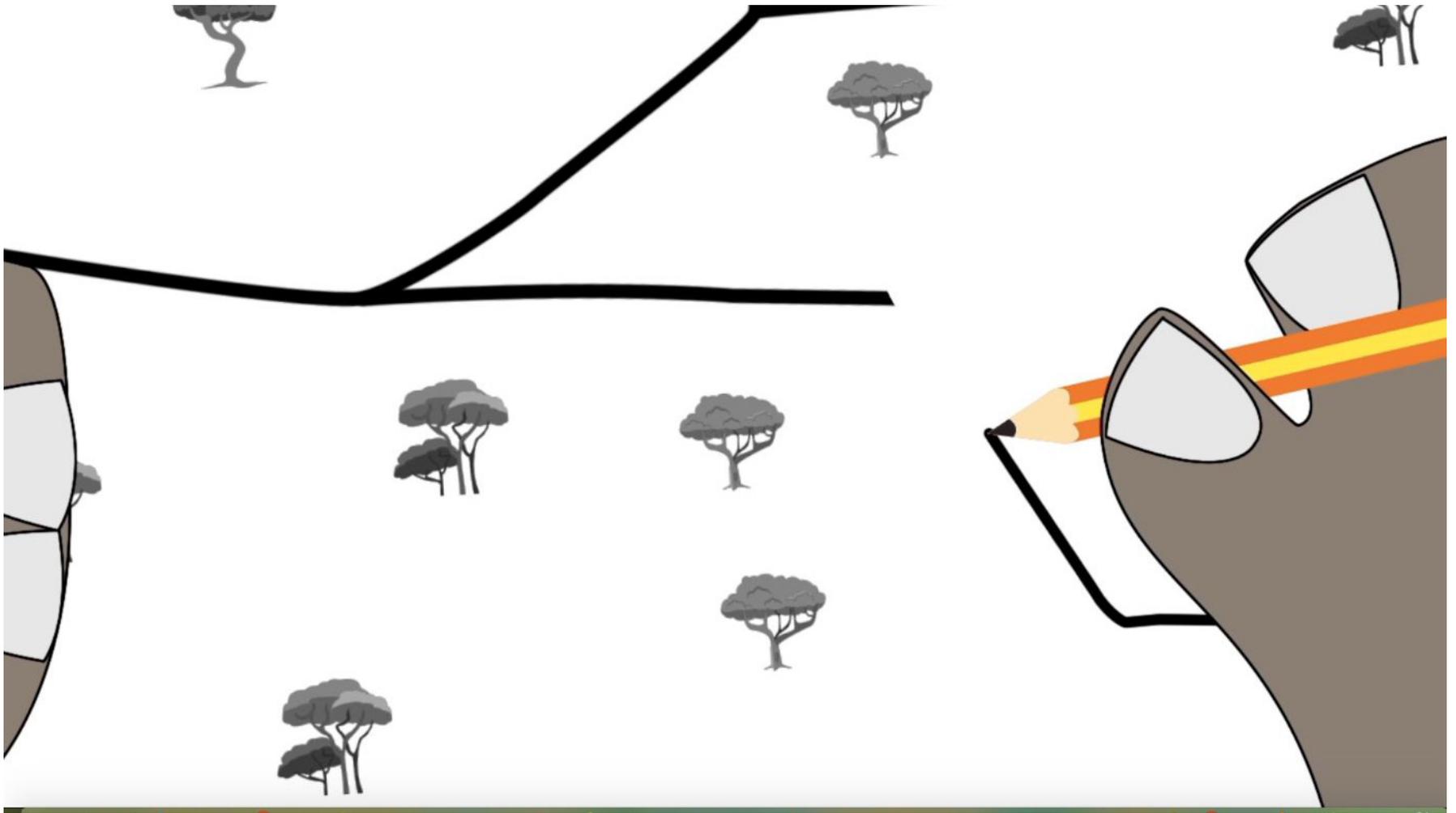
Ngedere told his brain about Fafa, who just kept bashing the wall. “She has a **FIXED MINDSET**,” the brain told him. “She believes that she has the brain she was born with, and she can’t change that.”



Ngedere woke up back in the forest again. Fafa told Ngedere that she had bashed her head into the wall 157 times, but the wall was no closer to falling down. Fafa looked sad.



Ngedere suggested that they make a new path through the forest. Fafa made the path by bashing through the brush. Ngedere followed her and drew a map of the new path.



Together, they made many new paths and Fafa took her turn at drawing the map. Back at the wall, Ngedere and Fafa taped up their very own map. It read: KOKOTOA FOREST PATHS BY FAFA AND NGEDERE.



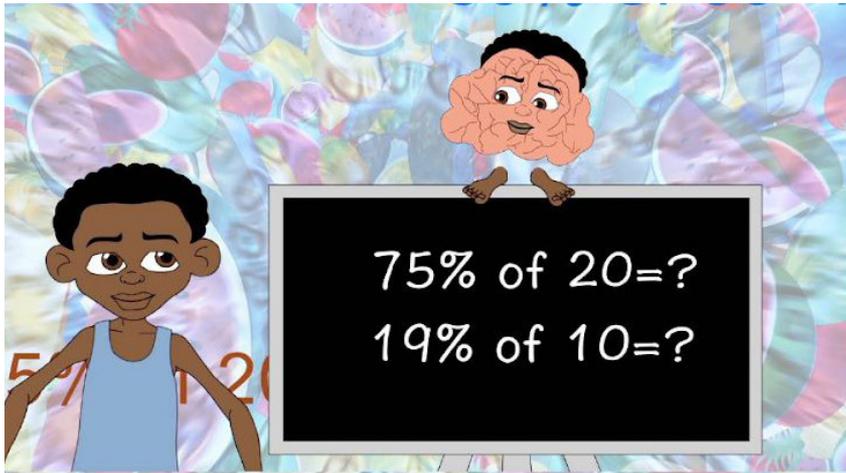
When Ngedere's friends arrived at the wall, they exclaimed, "What a great map!"



Ngedere introduced them to his new friend Fafa. At first they were frightened, but Fafa demonstrated how she had grown her brain so she could STOP before bashing into things.



Fafa and Ngedere explained how they had grown their brains. At that moment Baraka swung in on a vine. He showed them all how he had grown his muscles too!



Everyone began thinking about how they could grow their brains to learn new things.



# The End

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