



The Neuroscience of Story

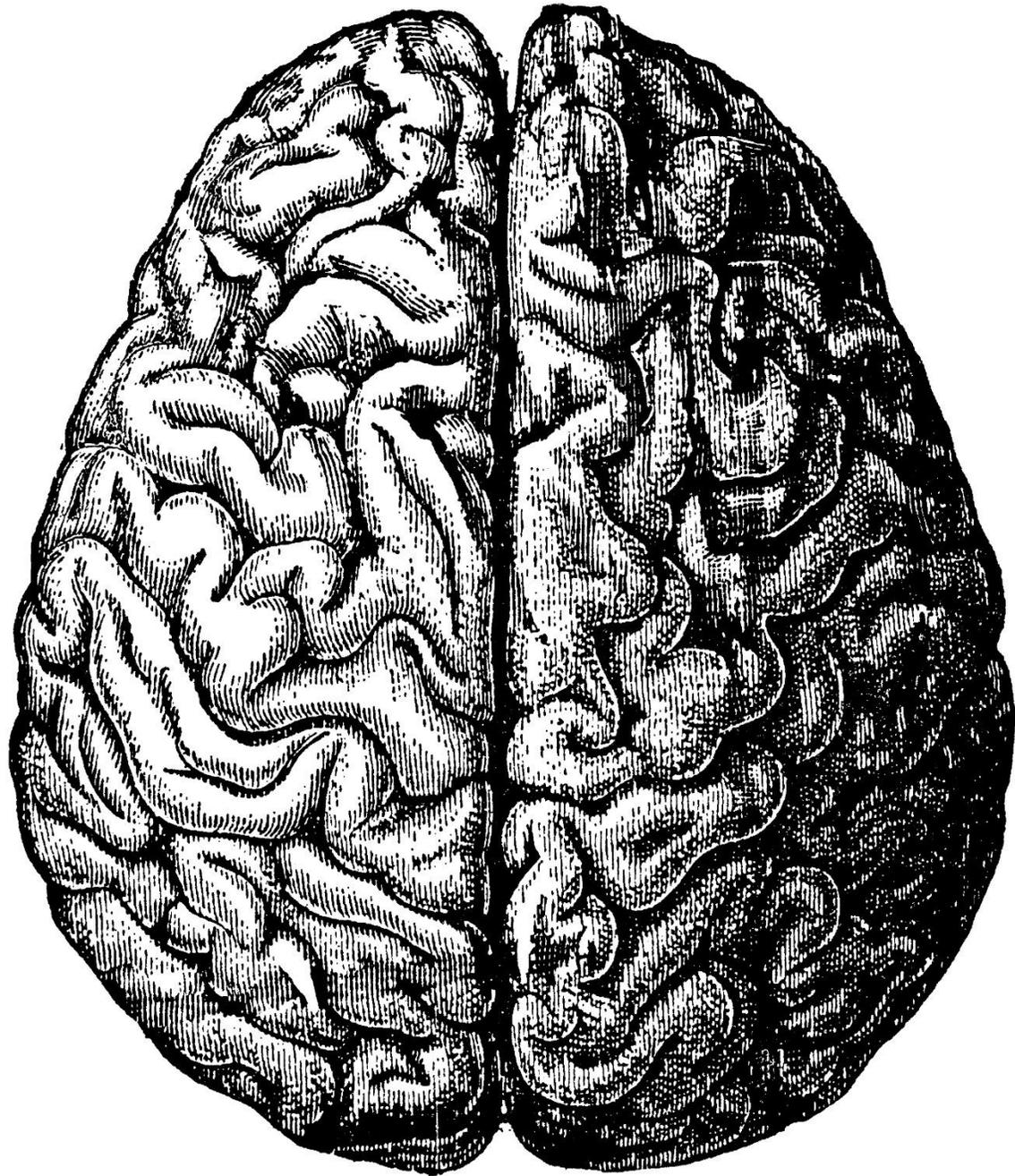
CONN MCQUINN
NOVEMBER 4, 2017





There have been great societies that did not use the wheel, but there have been no societies that did not tell stories.

Ursula K. Le Guin











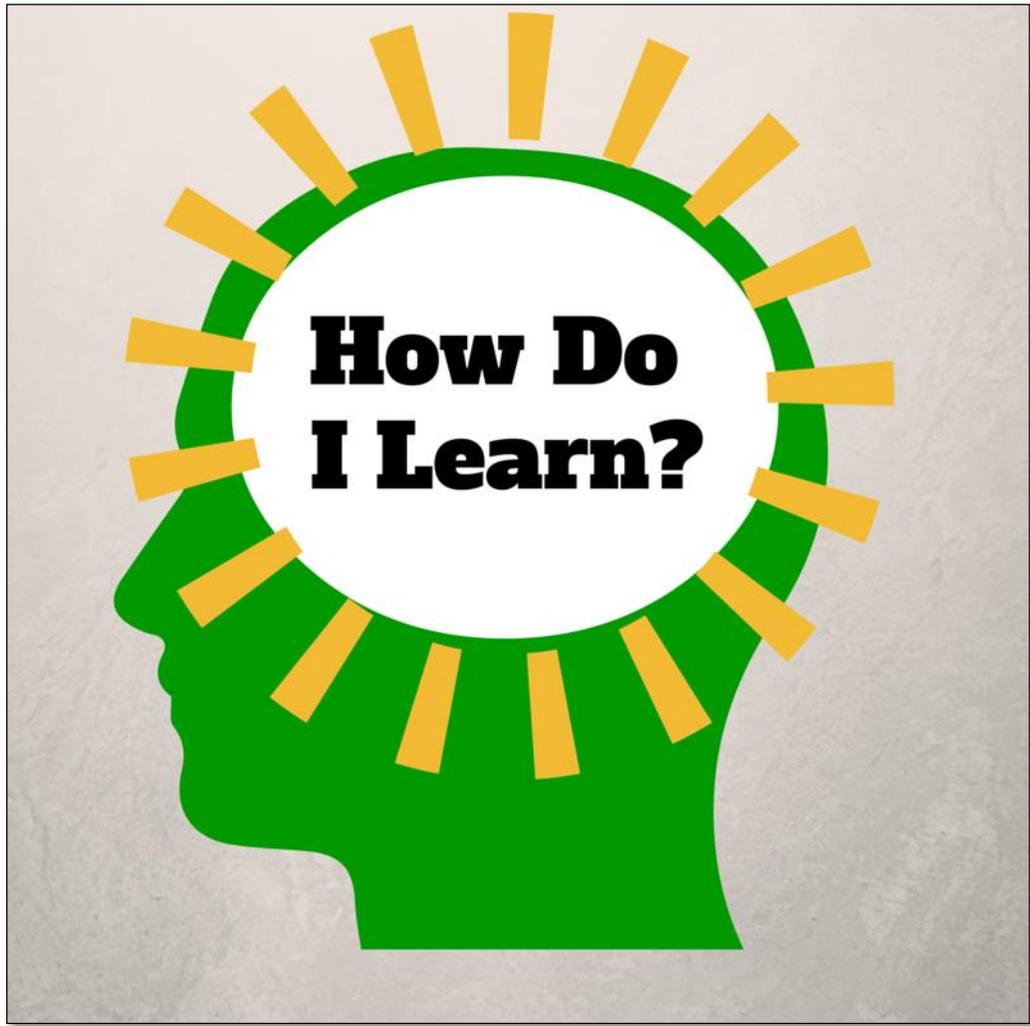
...RN of ETHIOPIC ...

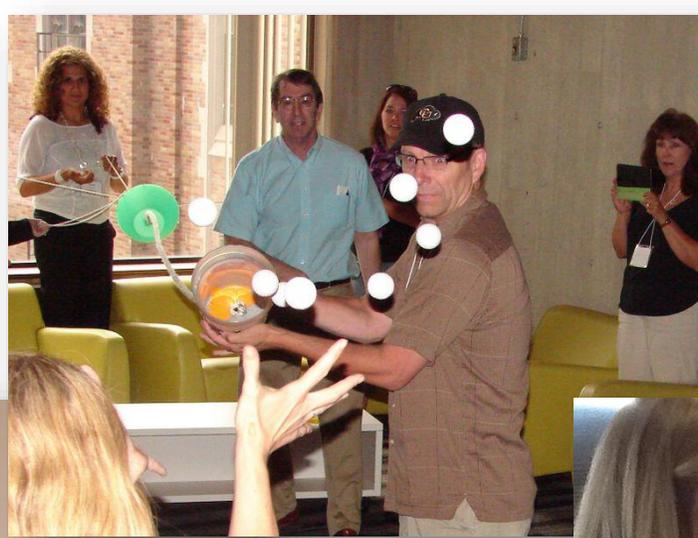
Tropic of Capricorn

LUNOGRAPHY OR A MAP OF THE MOON
according to Father Riccioli.
MONTAGNE DE MONTAGNE

The VICINITY of

...the Moon has no atmosphere ...
...the Moon has no atmosphere ...
...the Moon has no atmosphere ...





W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

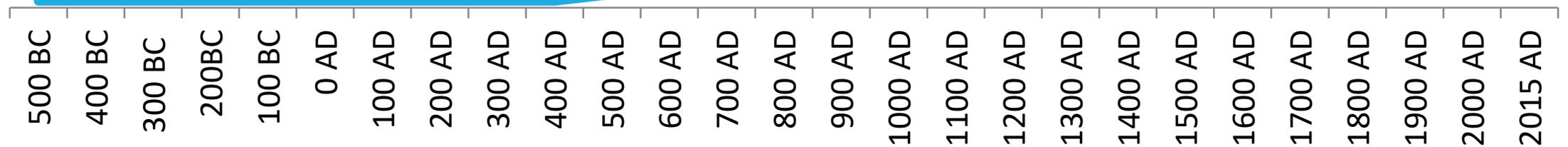


NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research

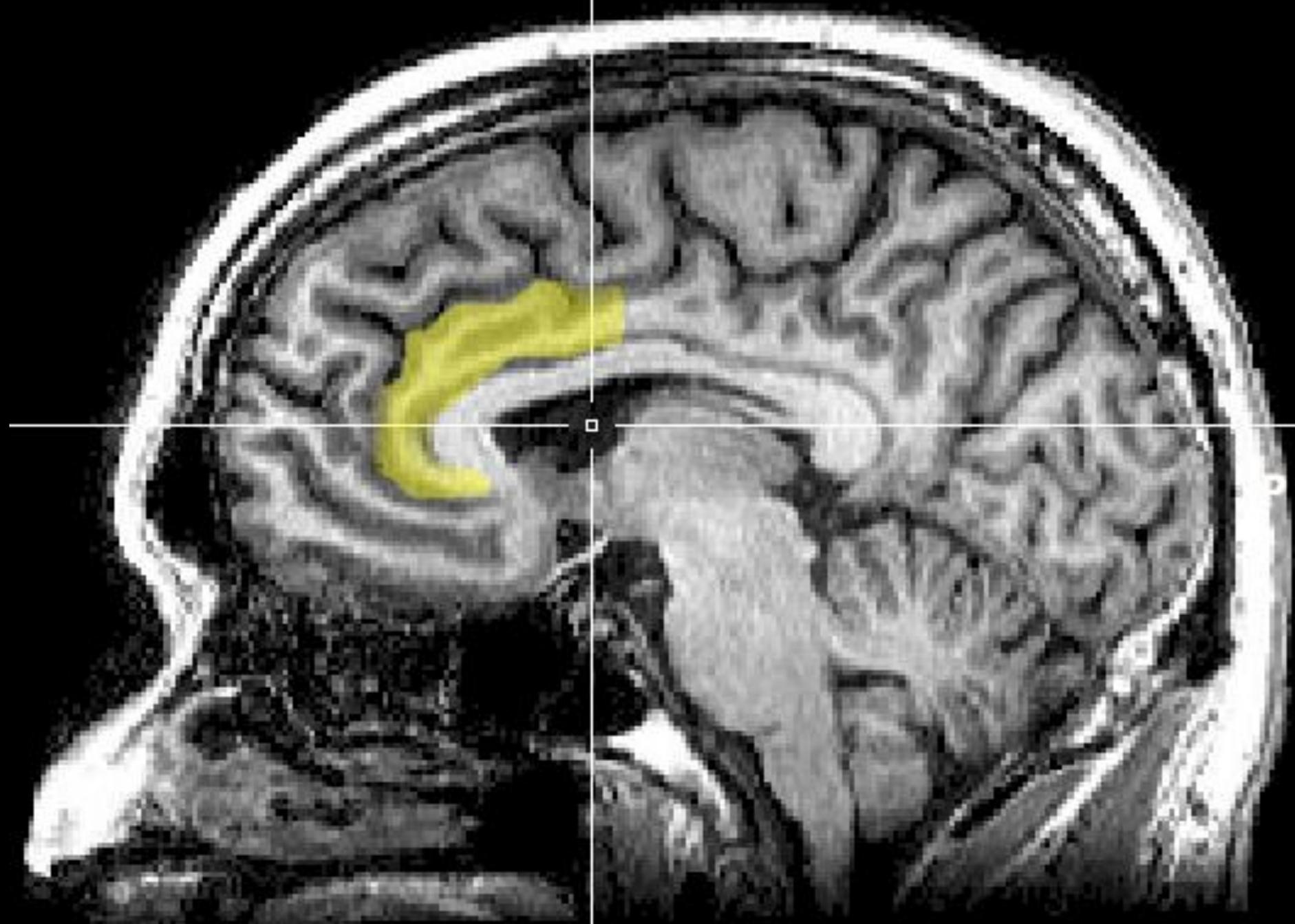
Knowledge about the Brain

We've learned more about the brain in the last 25 years than we did in the previous 2,500.

Dr. Eric Chudler, University of Washington



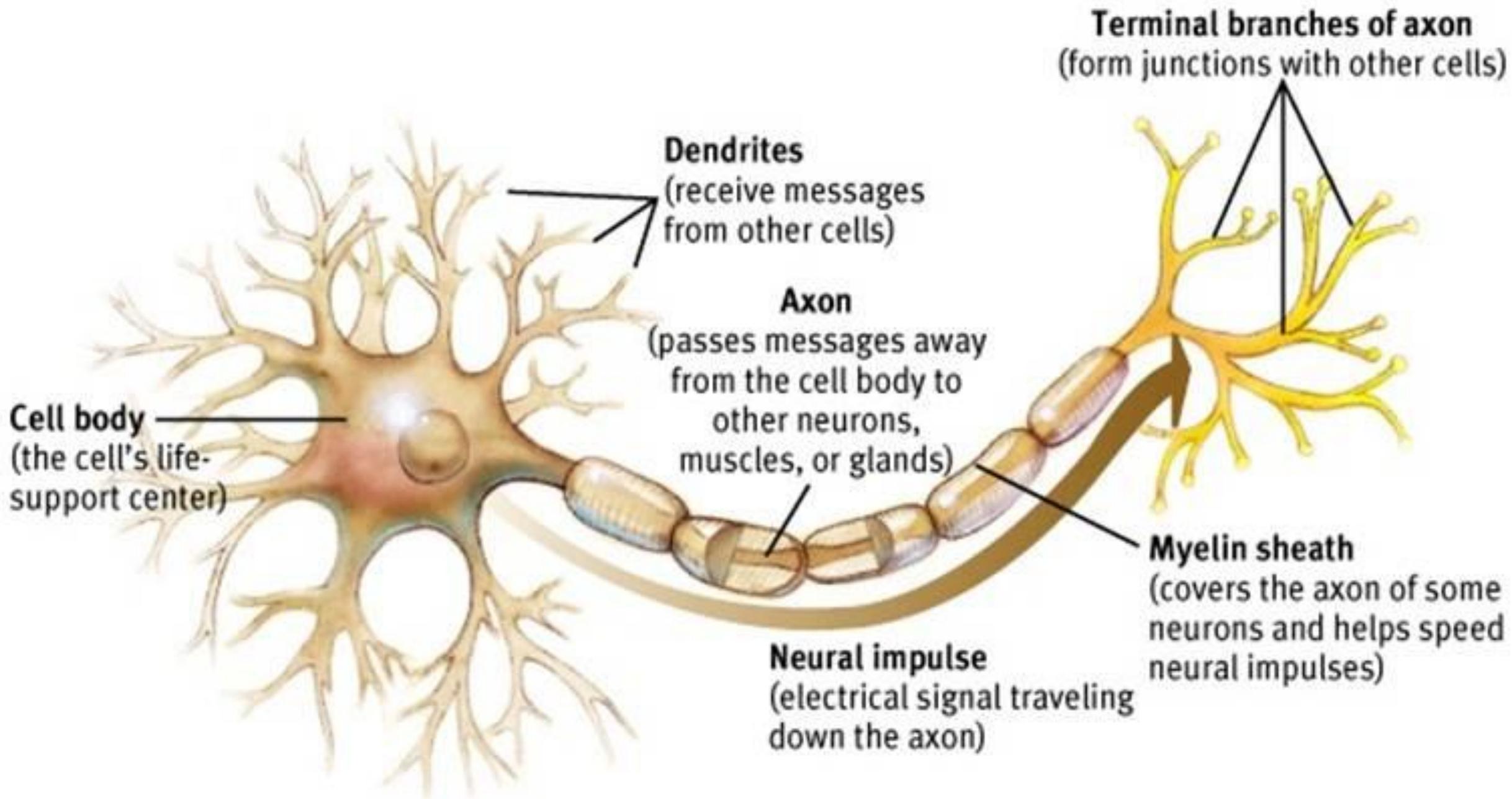


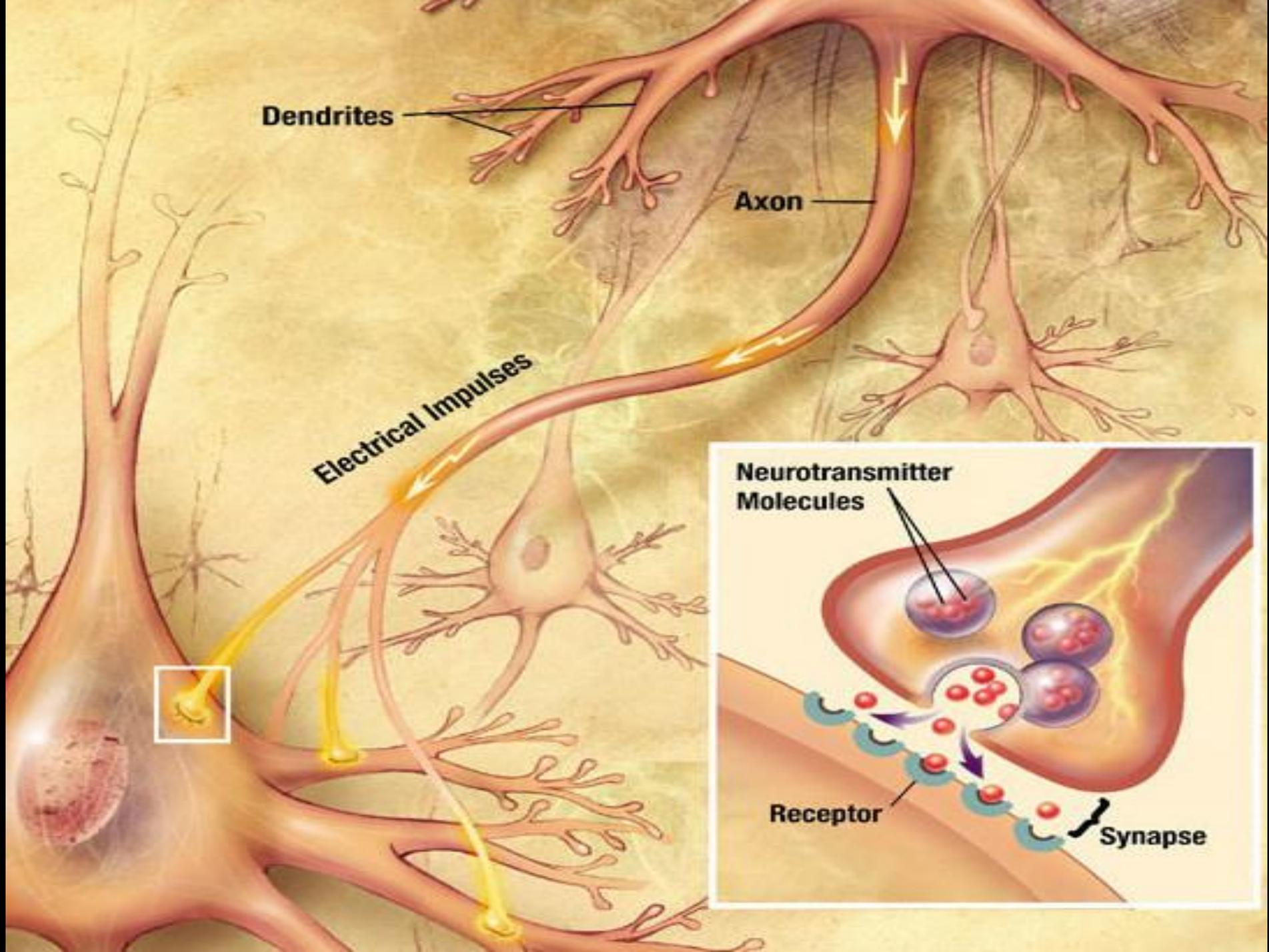


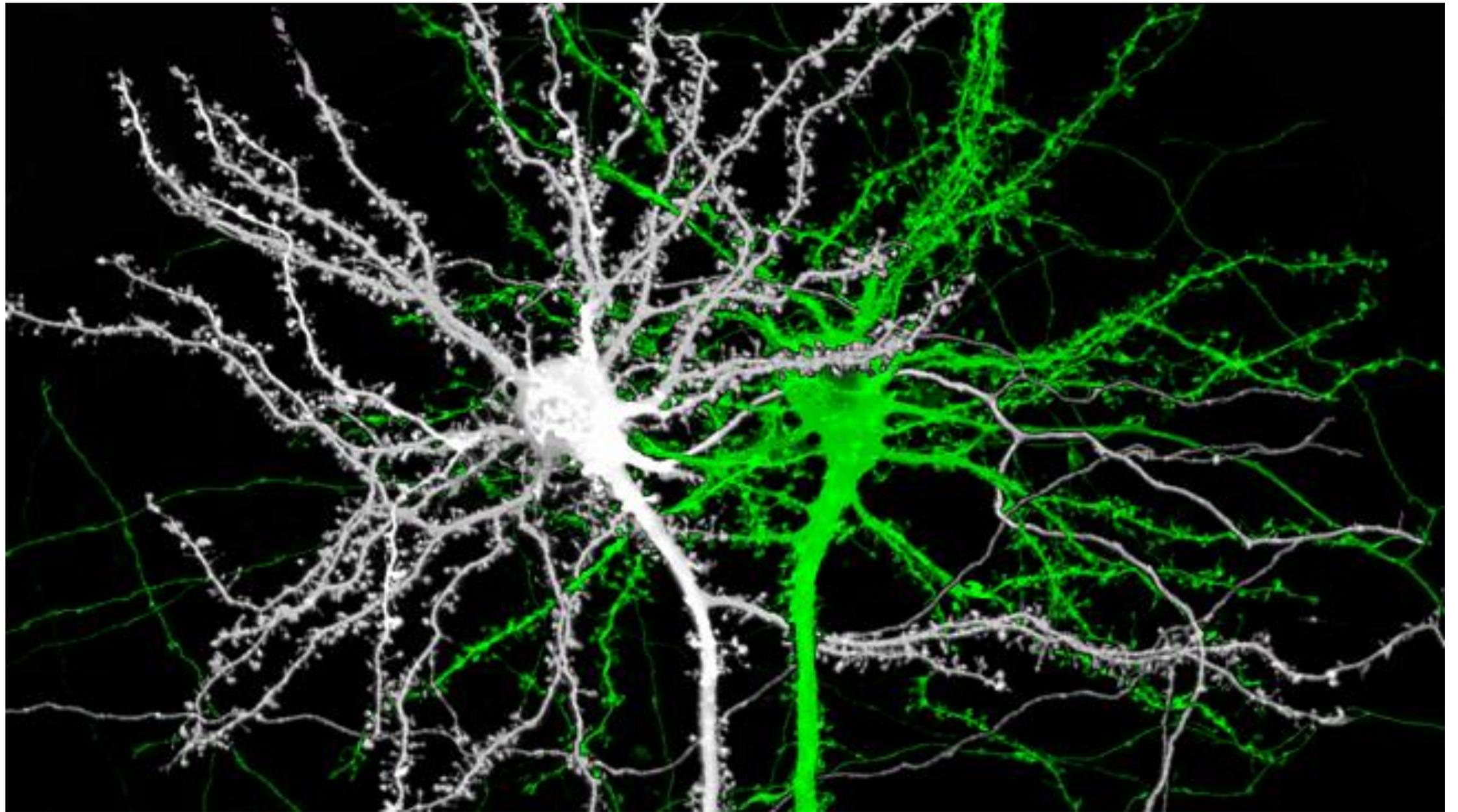
What happens
in the brain
when you
learn?



1 minute



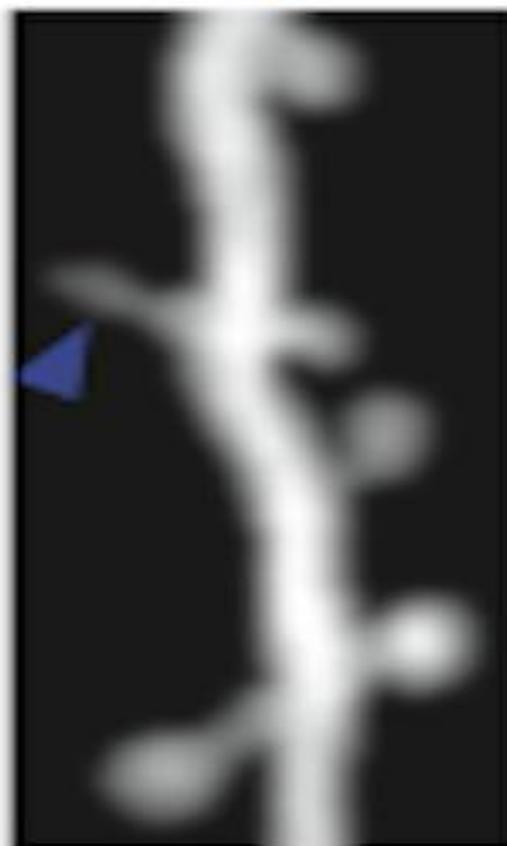




a Day 0

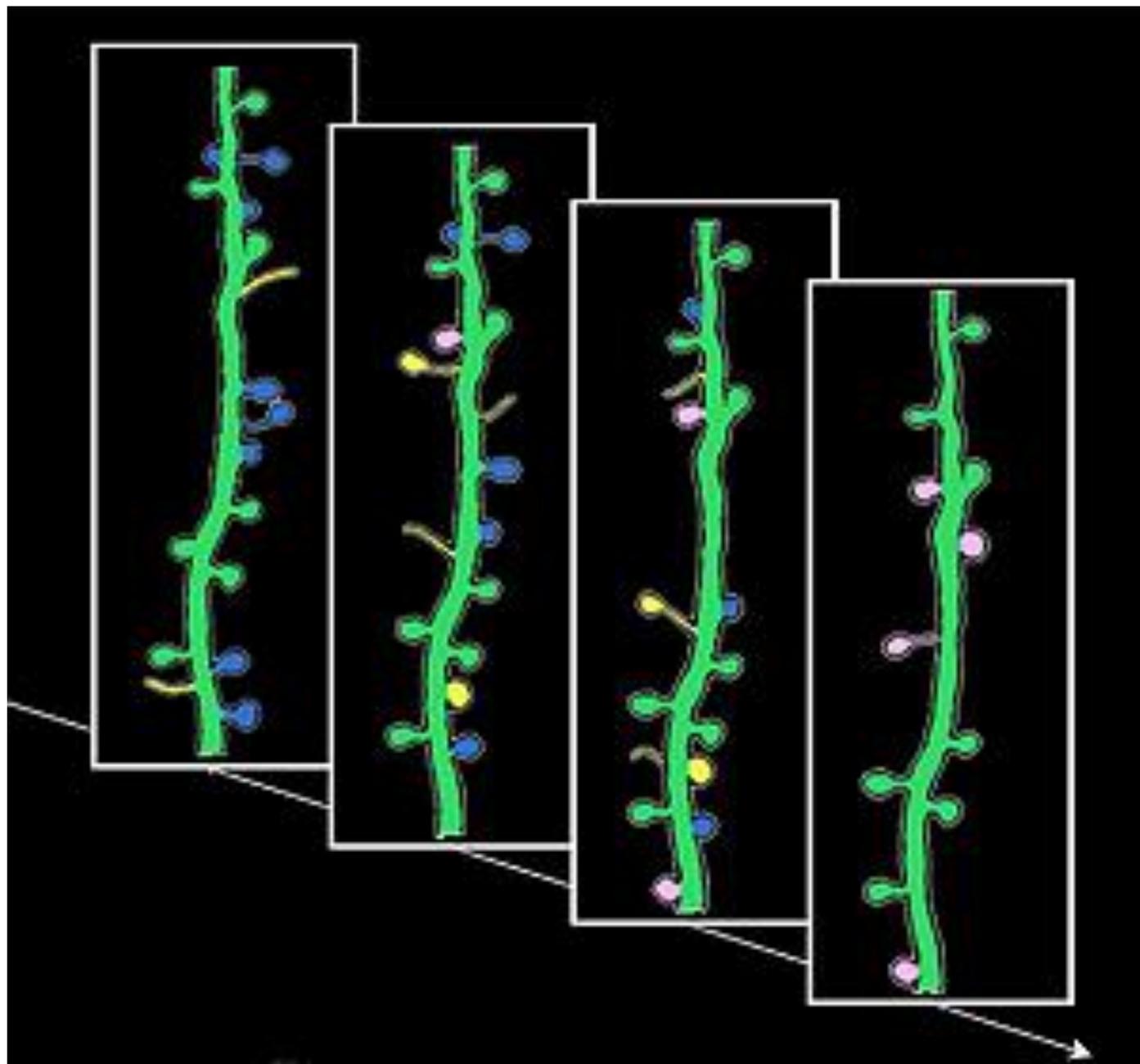


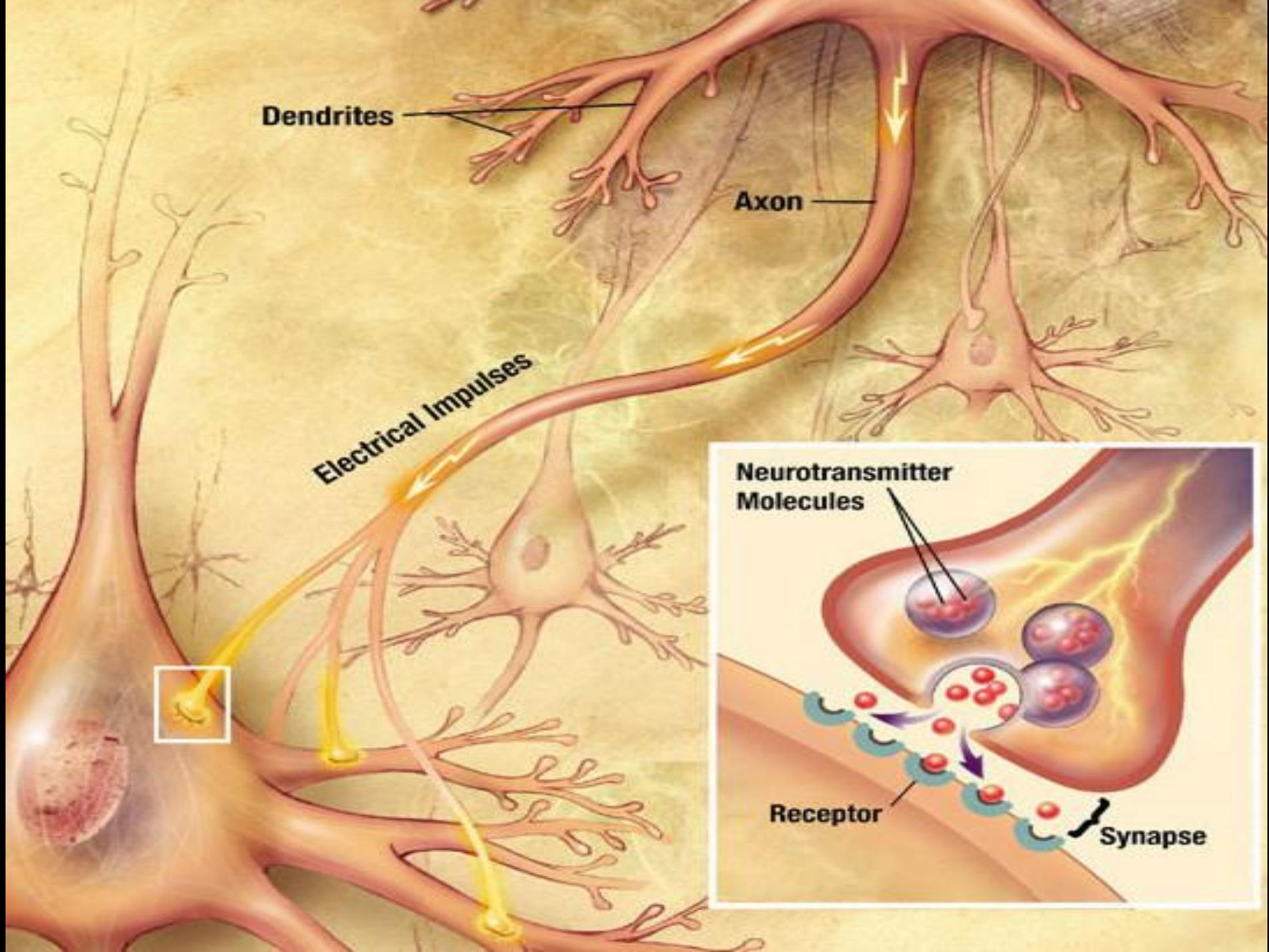
Day 1



Day 4



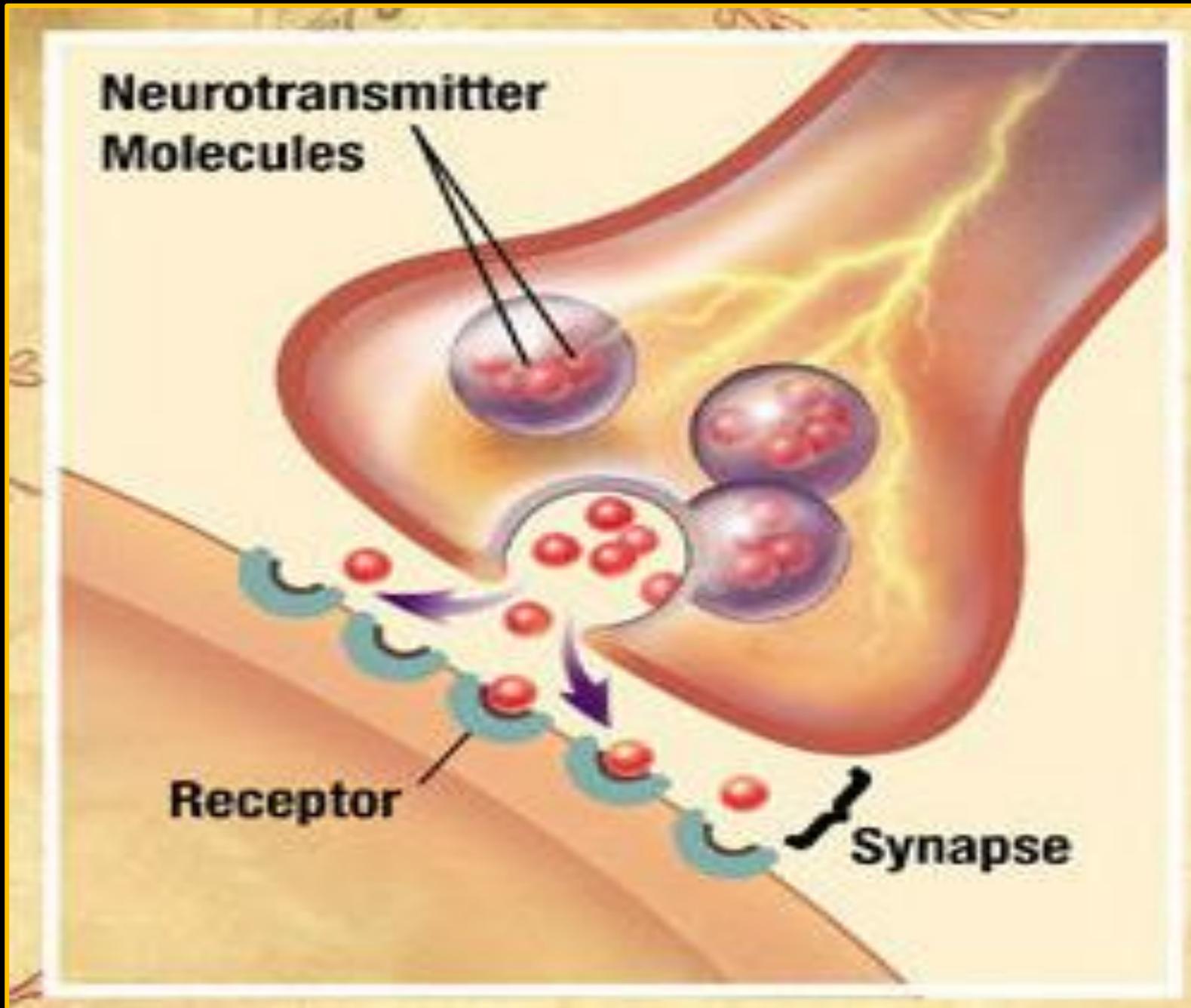




**Neurotransmitter
Molecules**

Receptor

Synapse

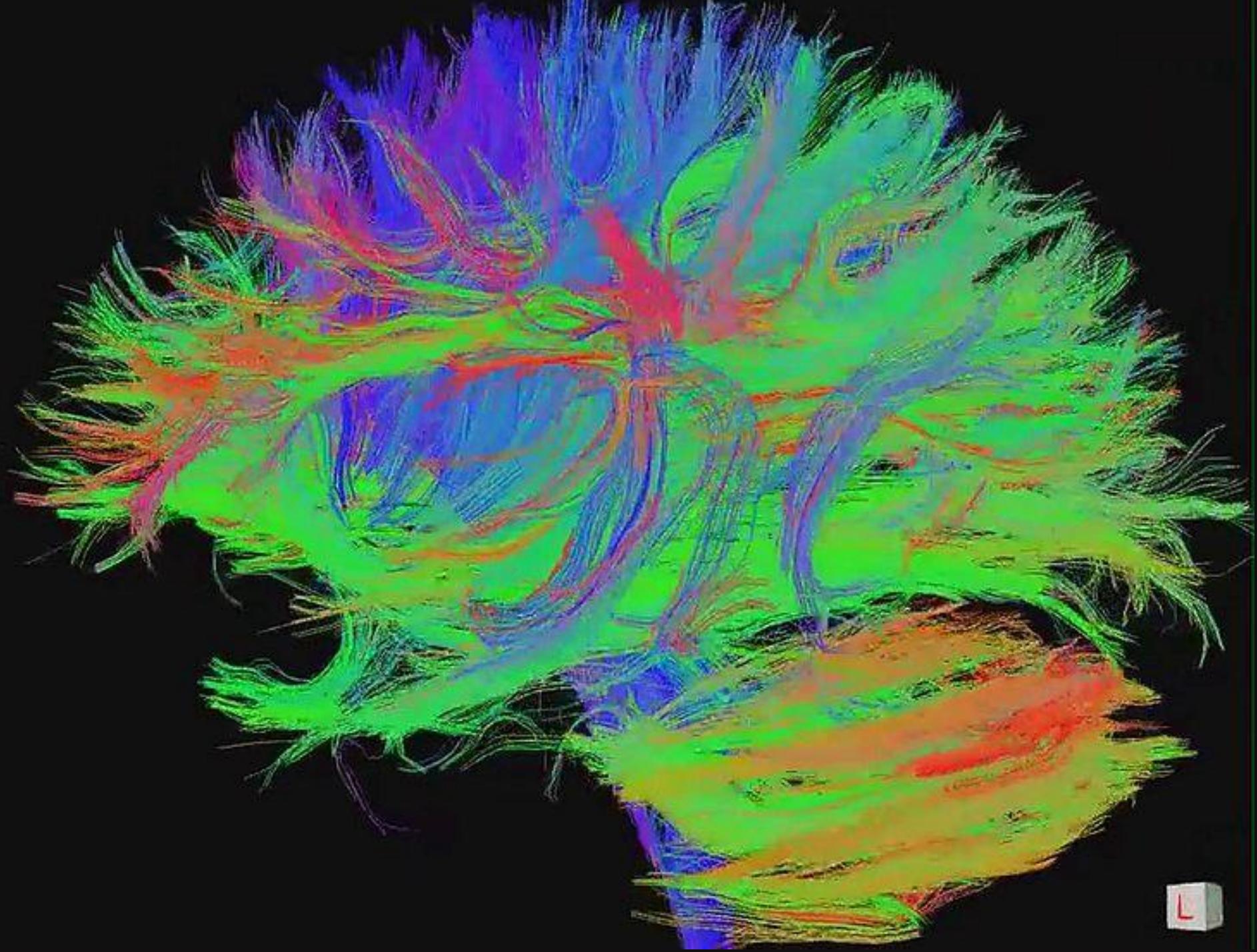


Reflection

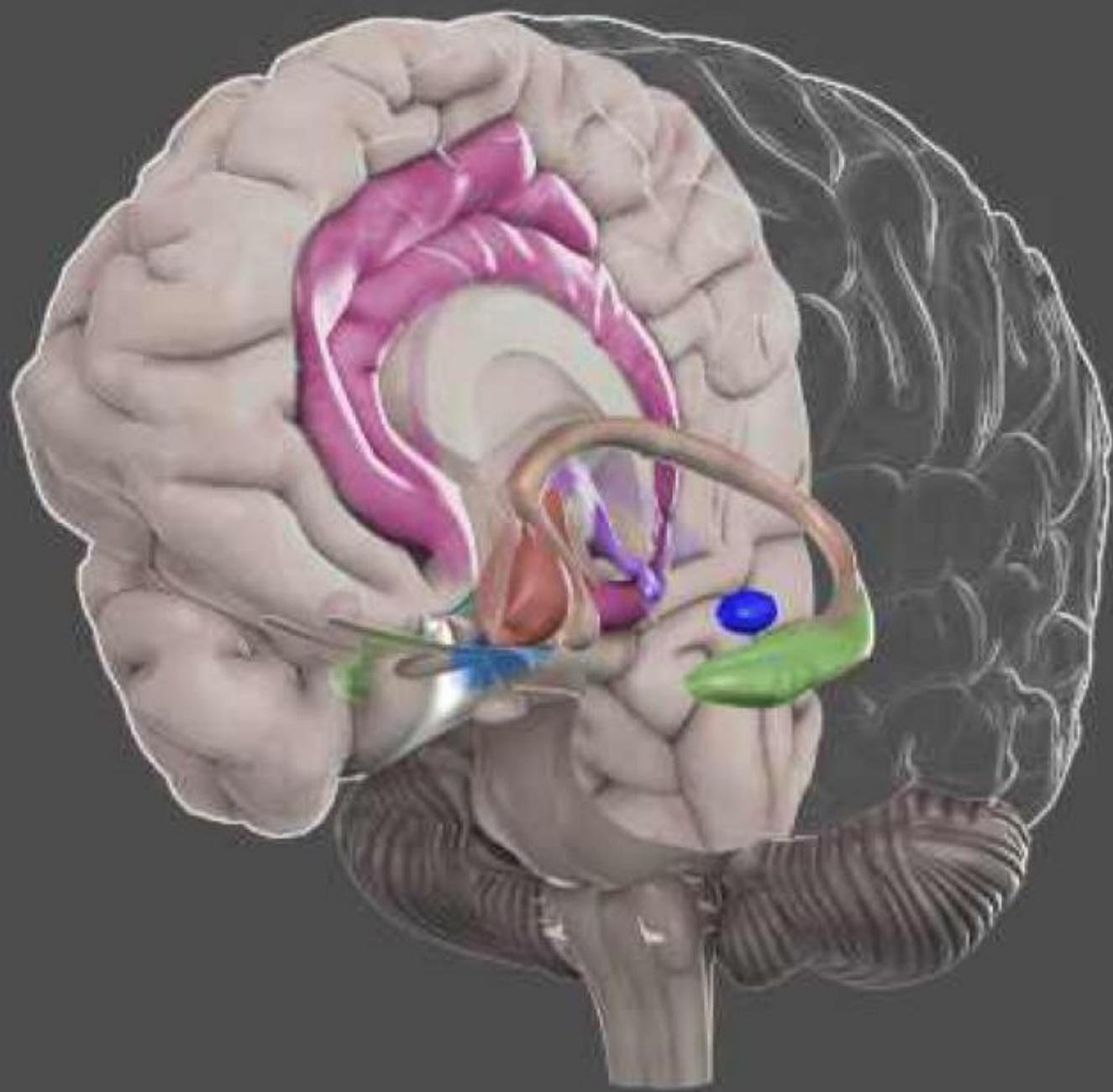
- What was surprising?
- What did you already know, but now see in a new way?
- What new questions do you have?

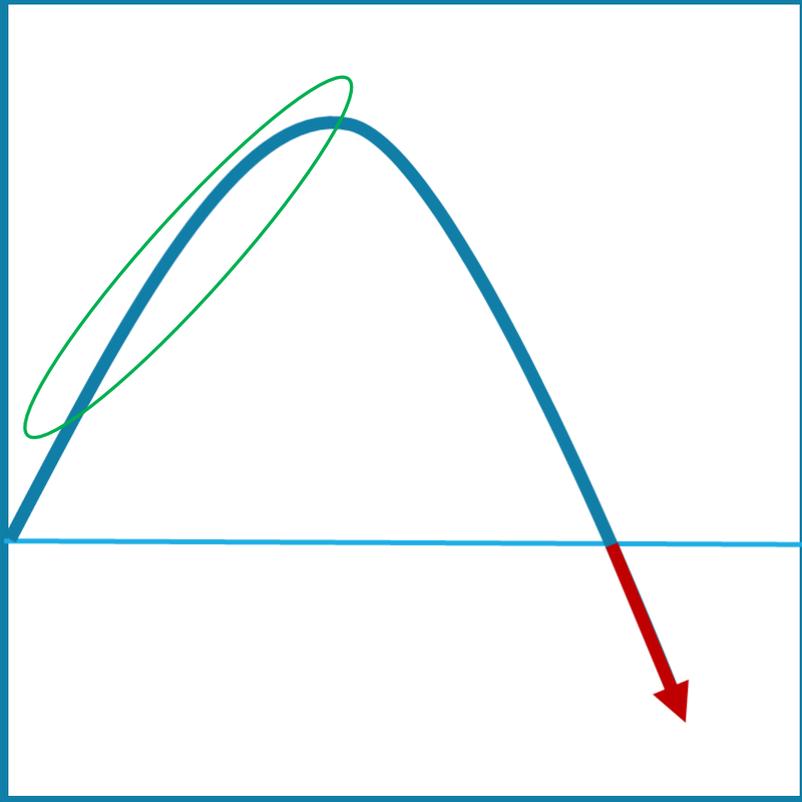
4 minutes

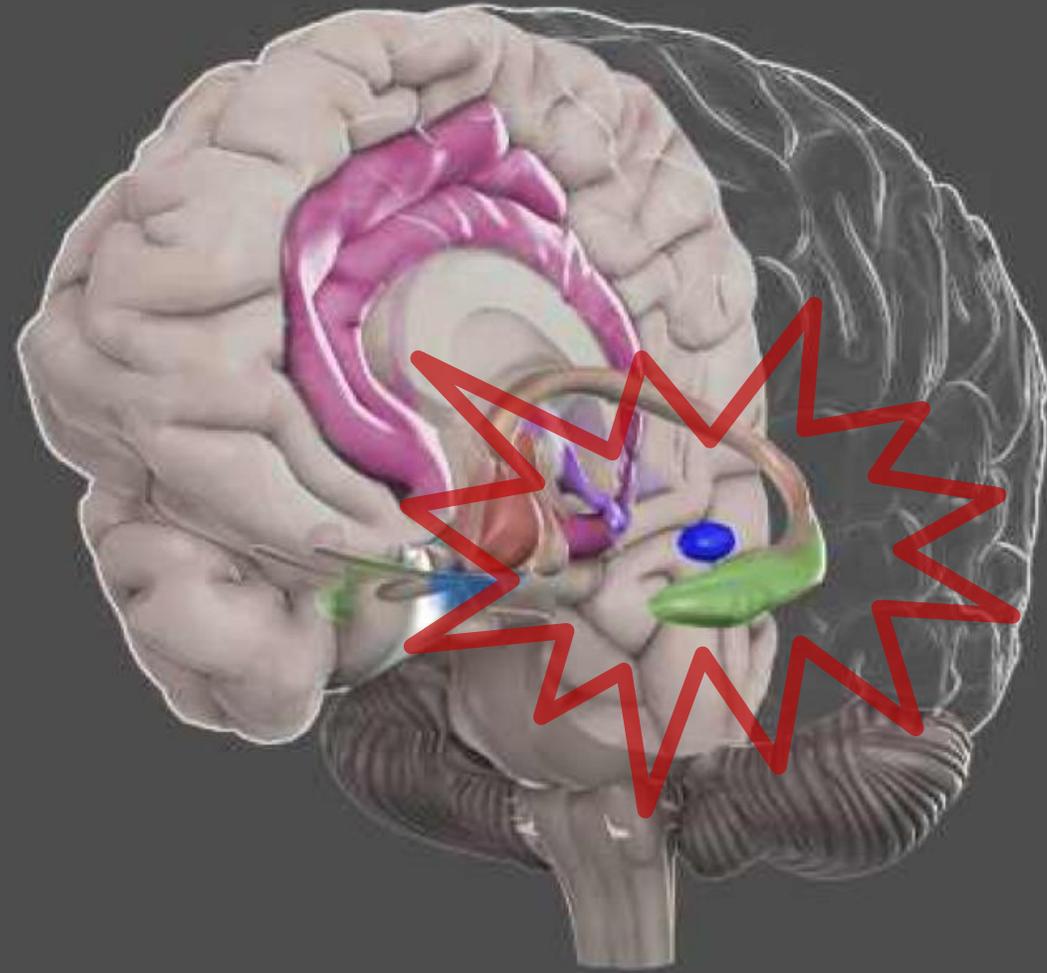
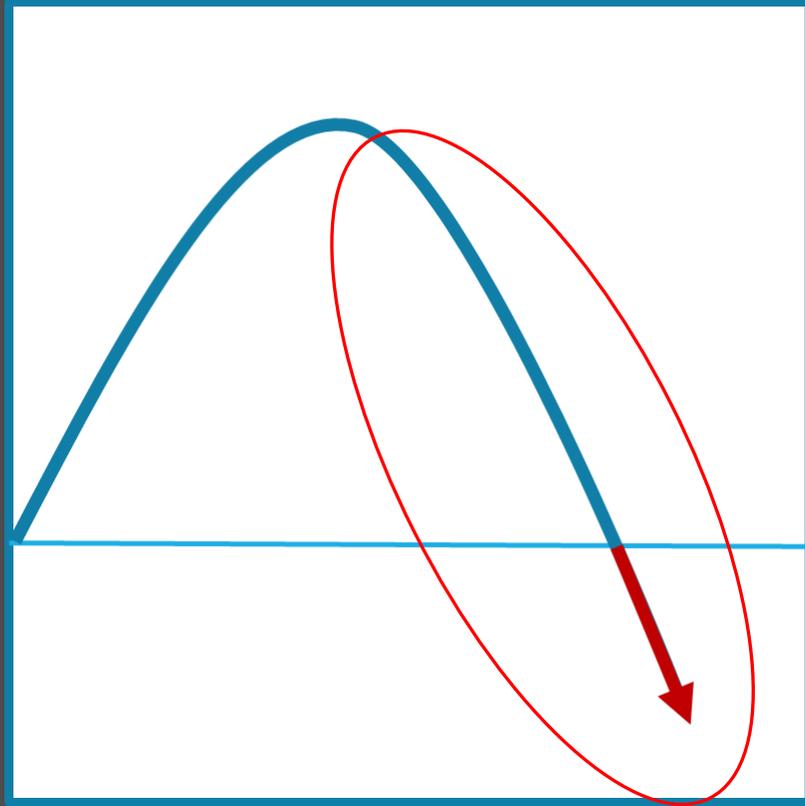




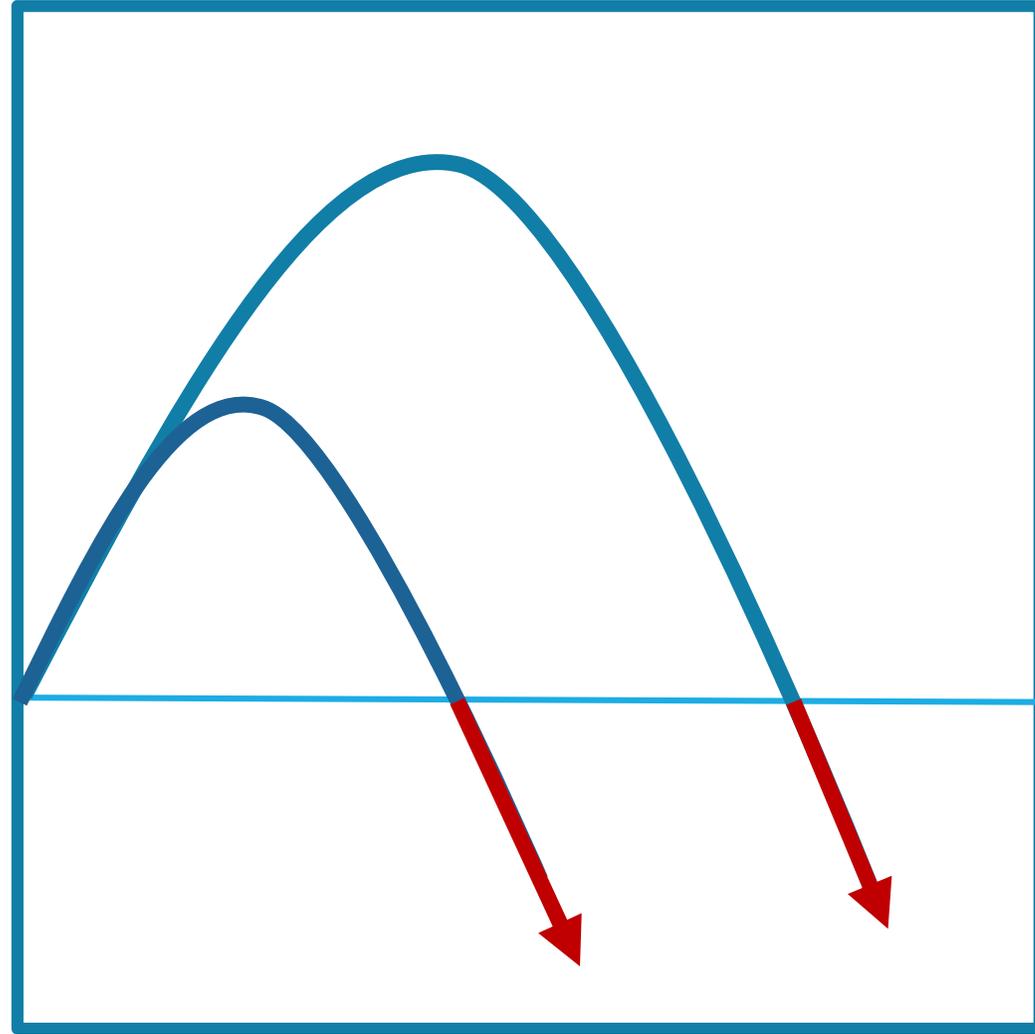






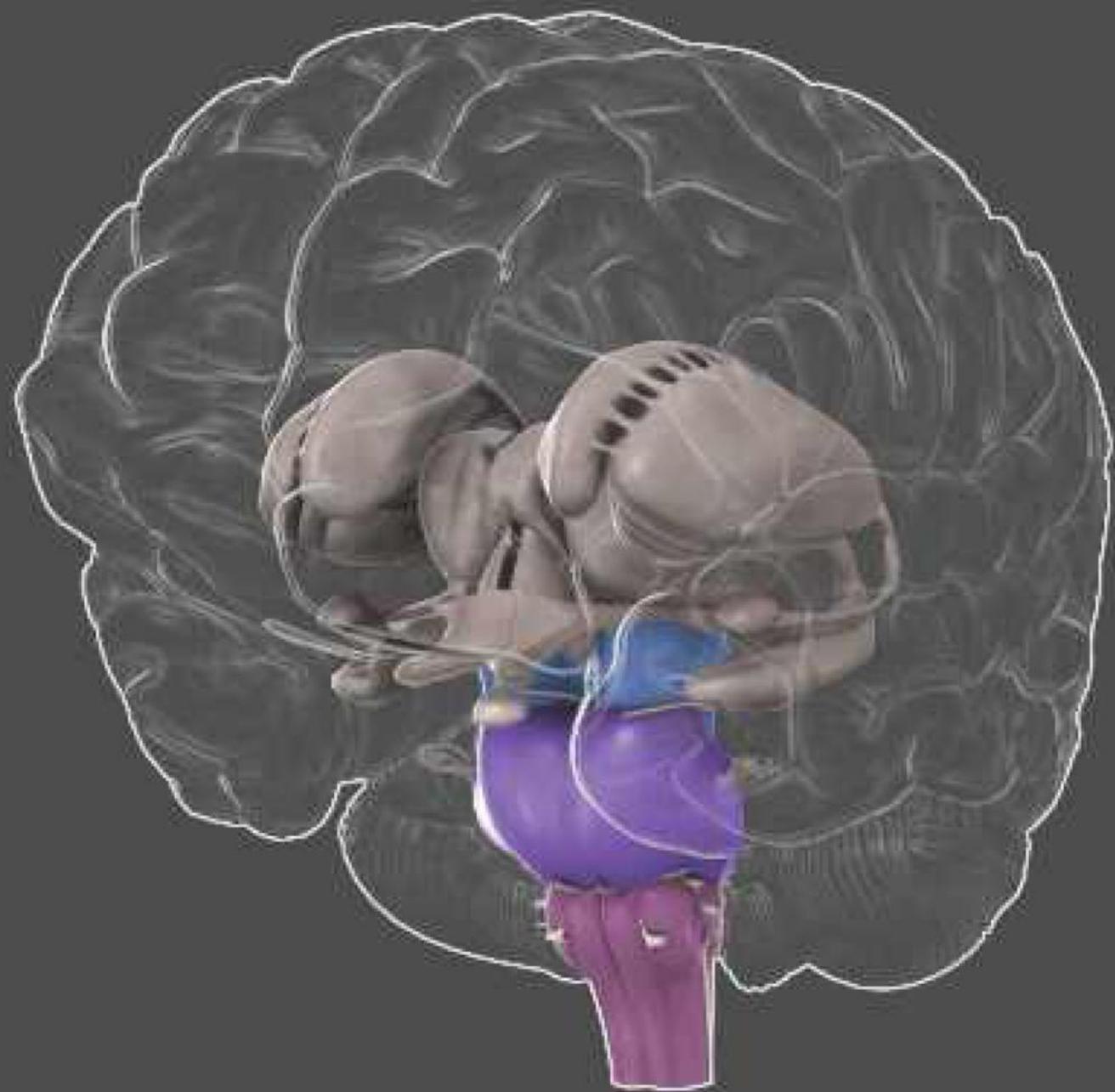


Performance



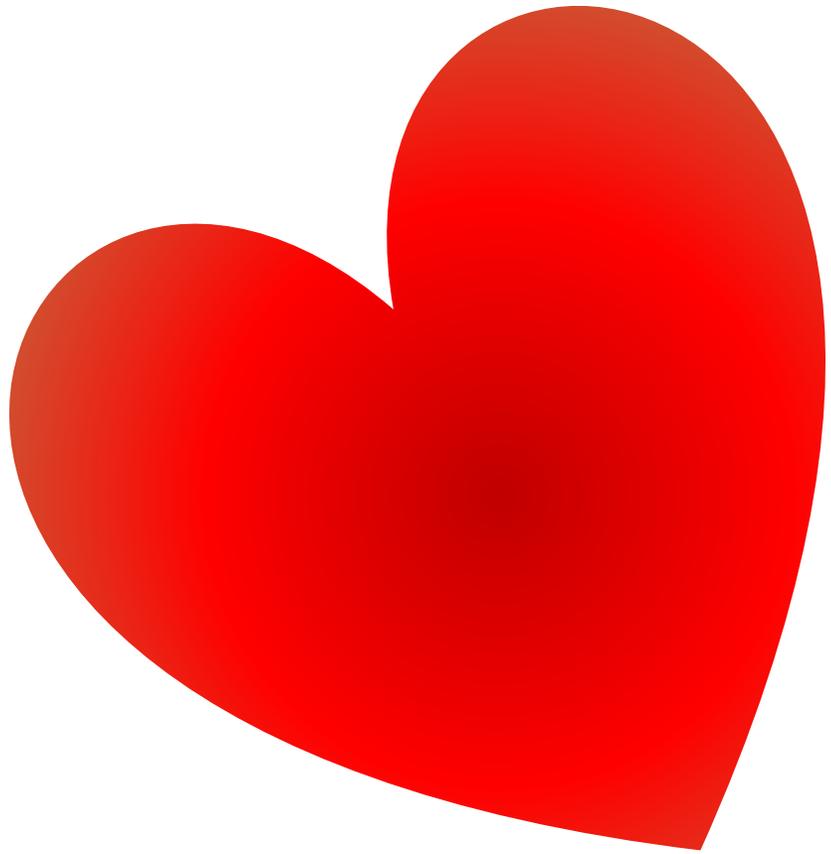
Stress









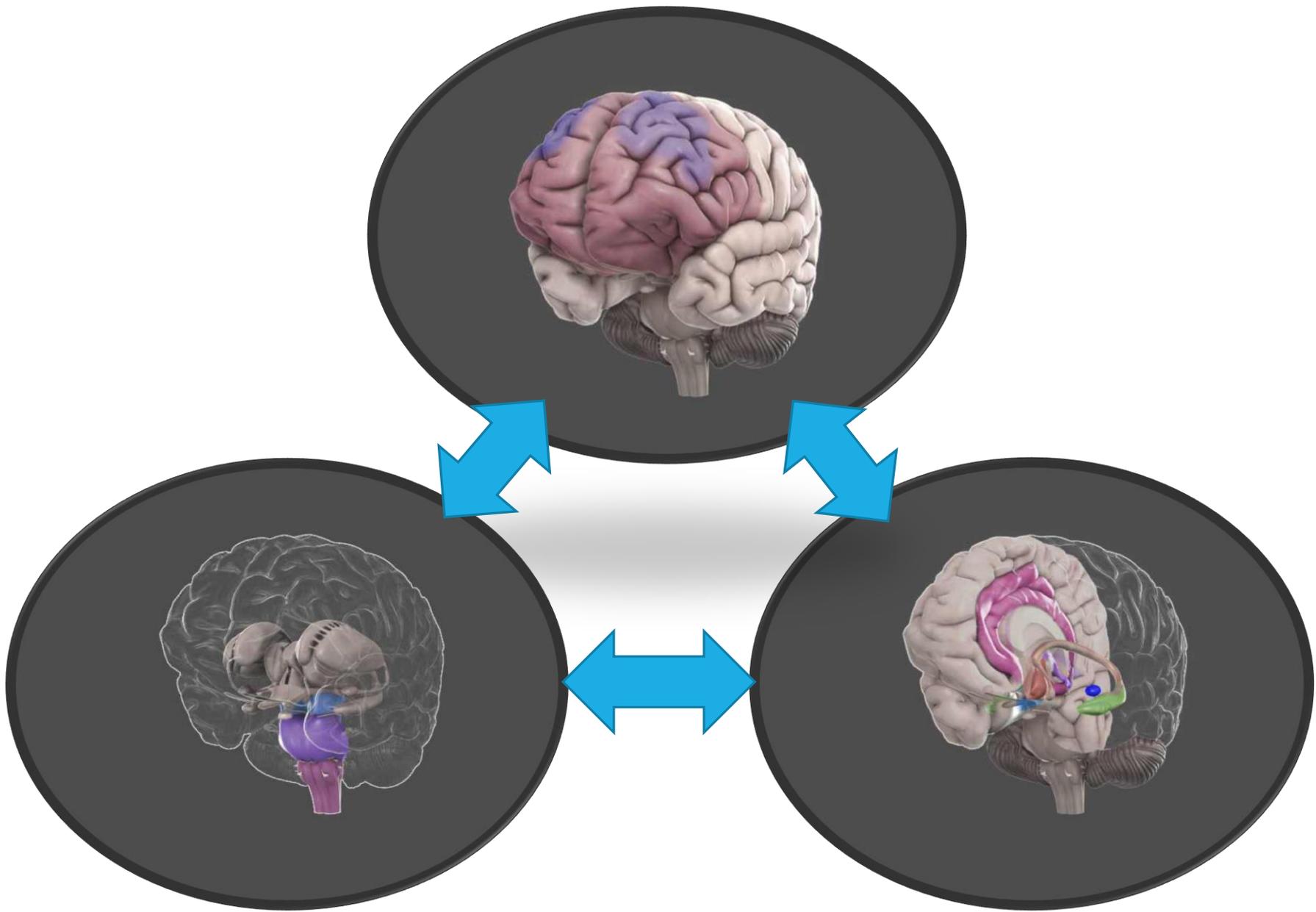


It is literally neurologically
impossible to learn deeply
about something you don't
care about.

Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang



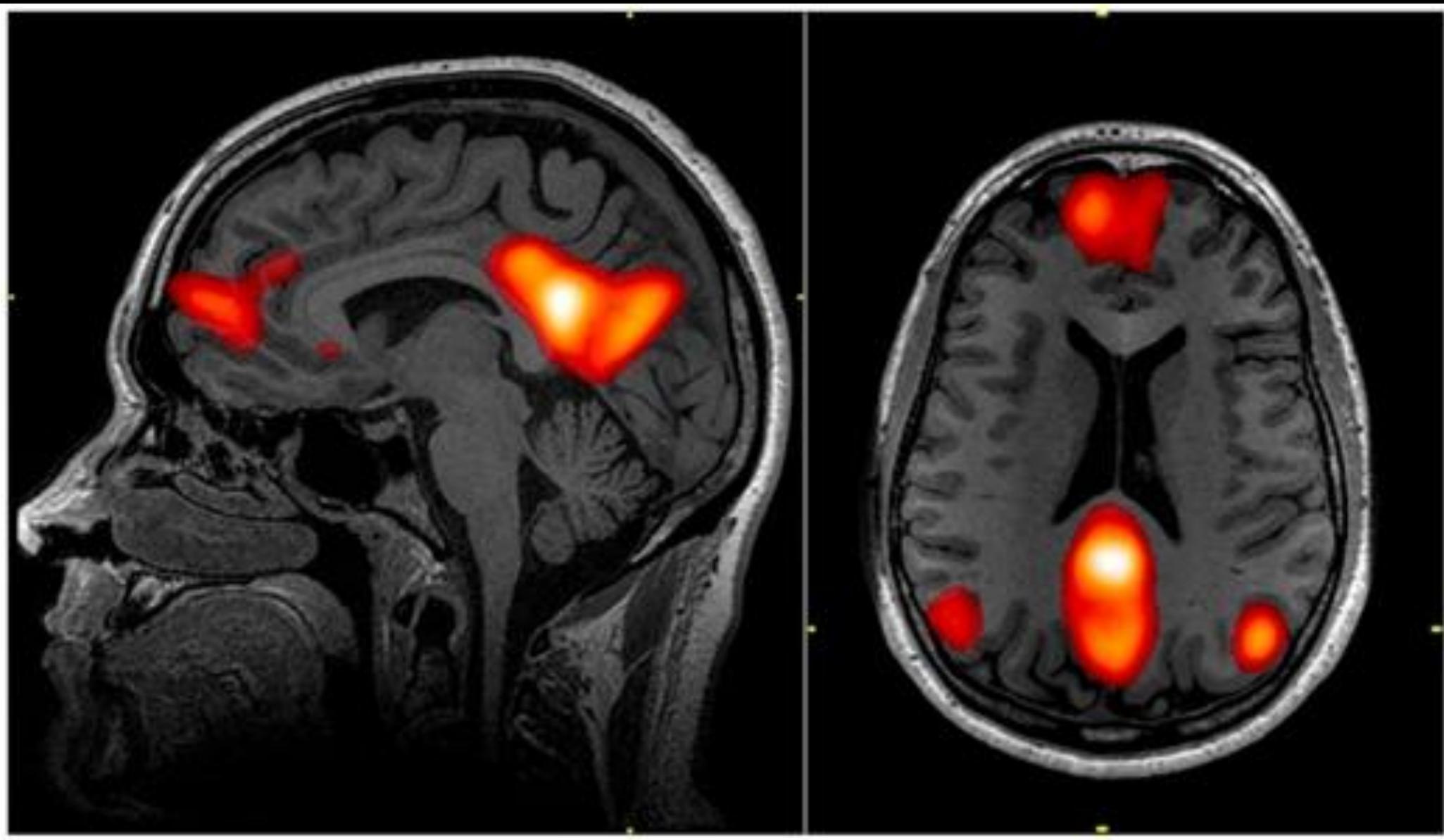




Reflection

- What was surprising?
- What did you already know, but now see in a new way?
- What new questions do you have?

4 minutes





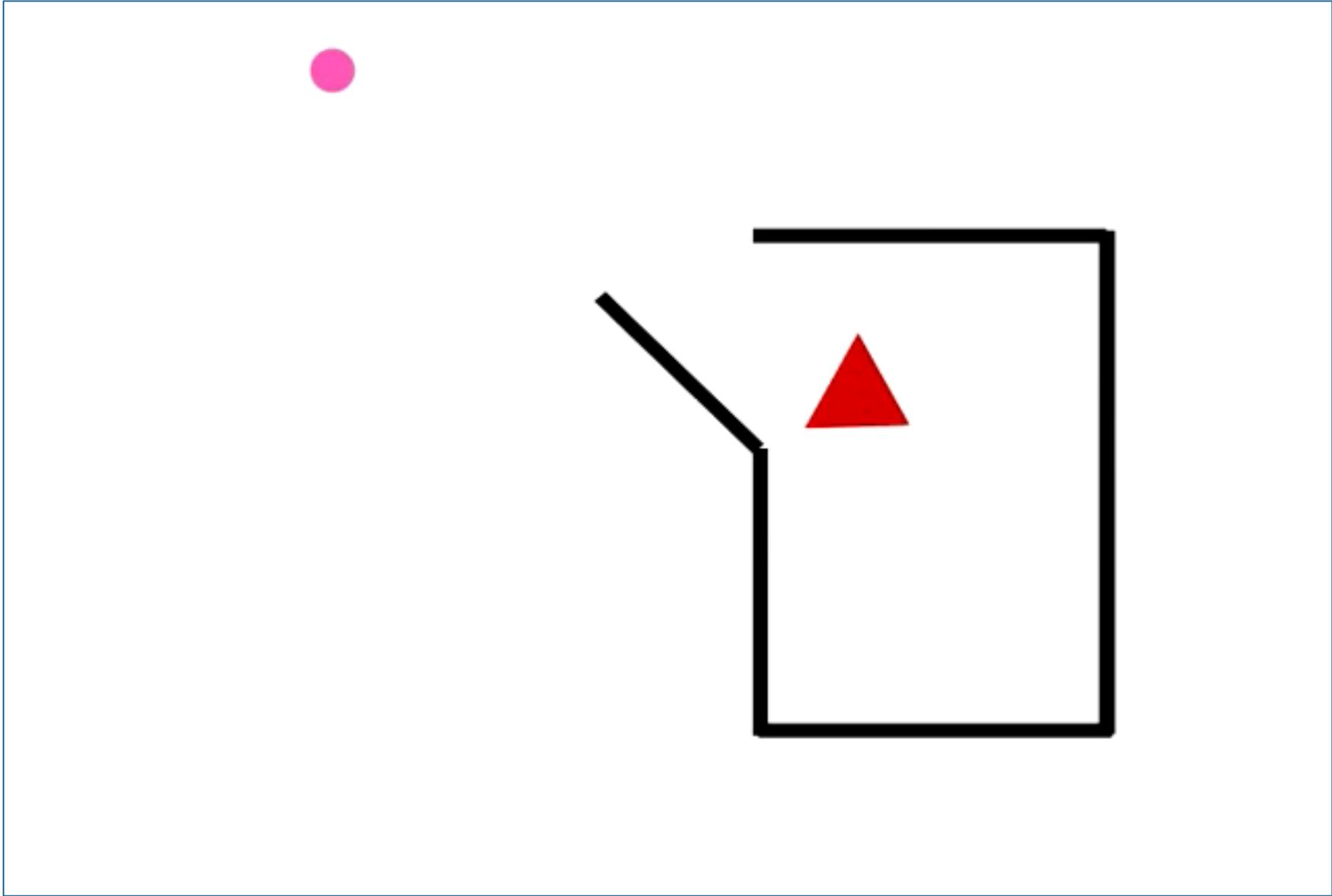






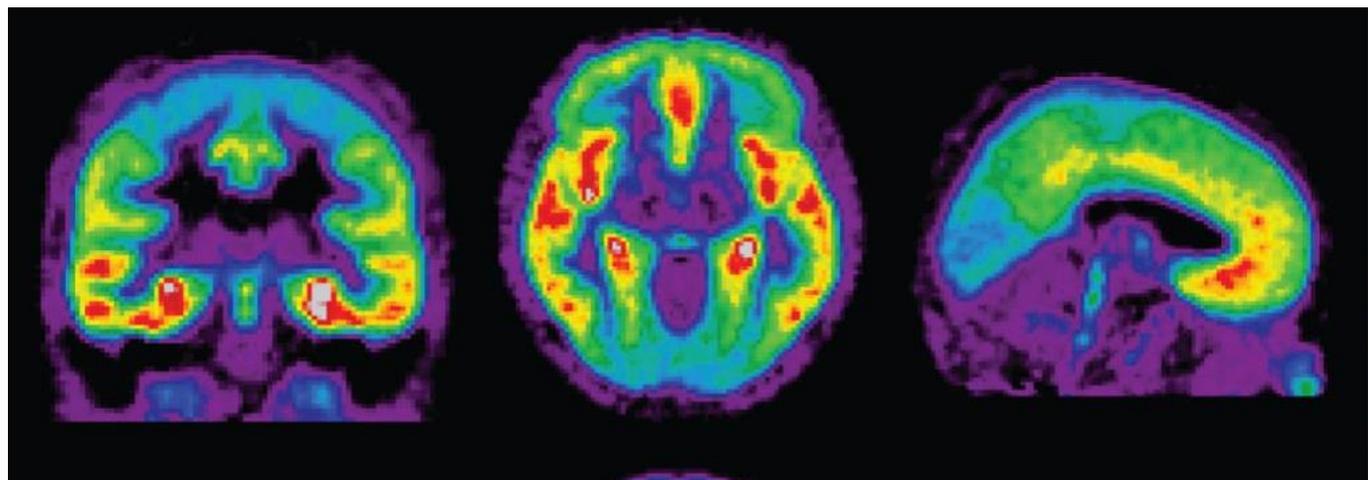
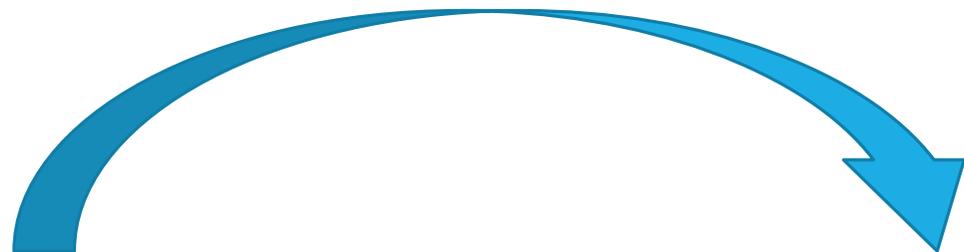


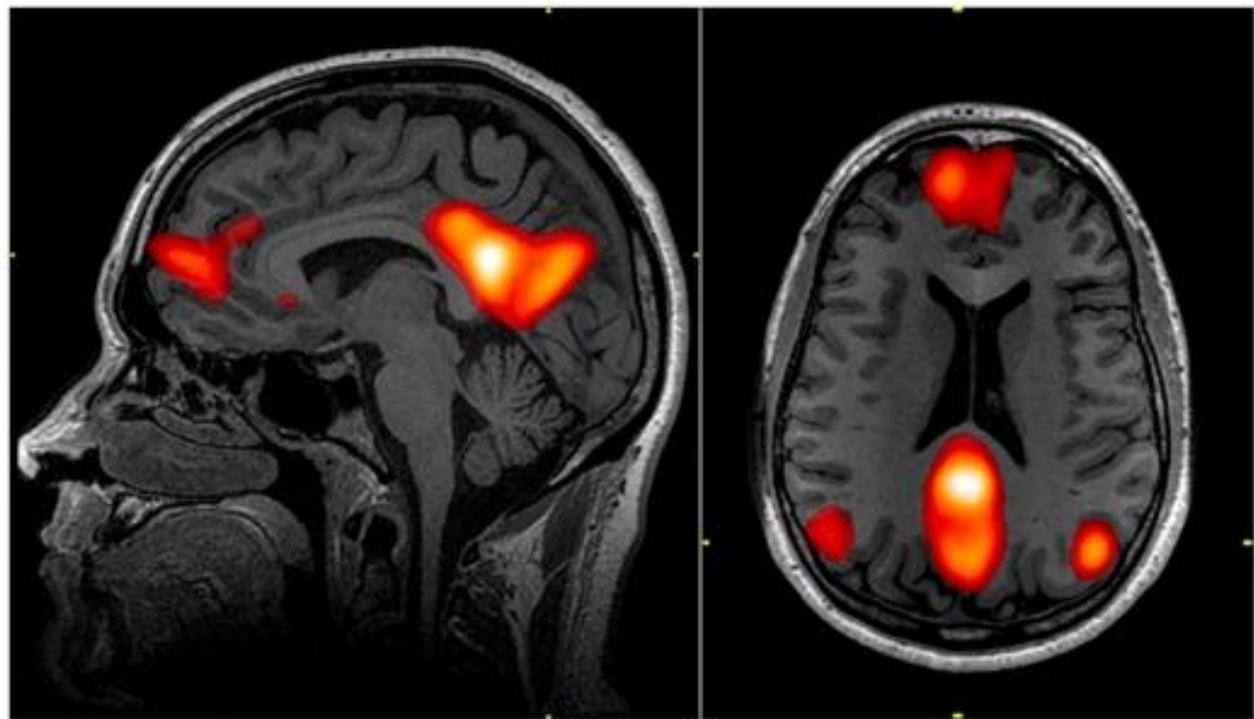
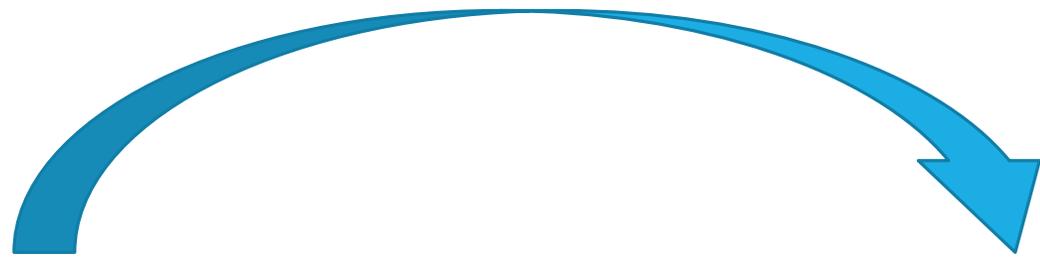












A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small, rectangular blue card. The card is held between the thumb and index finger, with the other fingers curled. The background is slightly out of focus, showing what appears to be a chair with a dark metal frame and a brown, textured seat. The lighting is warm and focused on the hand and the card.

People think that stories
are shaped by people.
**In fact it's the other
way around.**

- Terry Pratchett



Storytellers
RUN THE
WORLD

Reflection

- What was surprising?
- What did you already know, but now see in a new way?
- What new questions do you have?

4 minutes

THE WRITER'S JOURNEY

MYTHIC STRUCTURE FOR WRITERS

THIRD EDITION

CHRISTOPHER VOGLER



**ACT III
RETURN**

12. Return with Elixir
(Denouement)

11. Resurrection
(Climax)

10. The Road
Back

9. Reward

**ACT II B
INITIATION**



1. Ordinary World

2. Call to Adventure
(Inciting incident)

3. Refusal of the Call

4. Meeting with
the Mentor

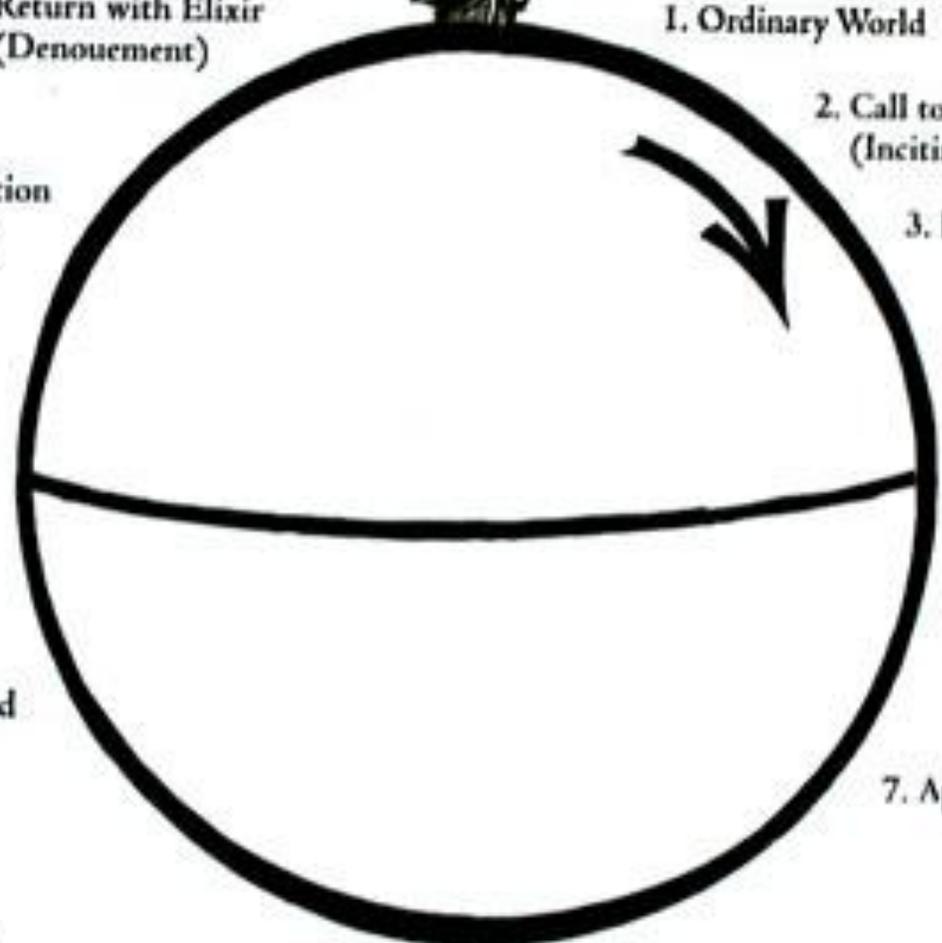
5. Crossing
the Threshold

6. Tests, Allies,
Enemies

7. Approach

**ACT II A
DESCENT**

8. Central Ordeal
(Midpoint, Death, and Rebirth)





Hero!

Mentor

Ally

Herald



Hero!

**Threshold
Guardian**

Shapeshifter

Trickster

Shadow

The need to belong and feel connected

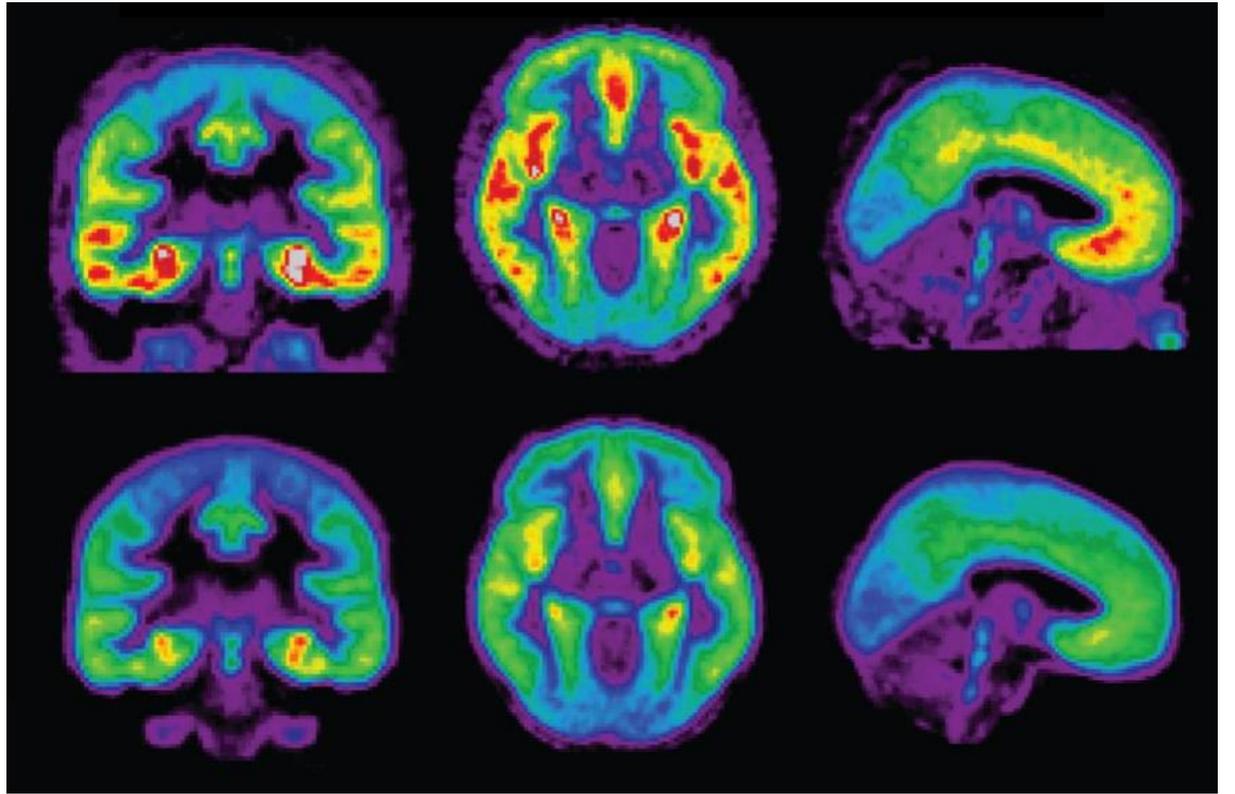
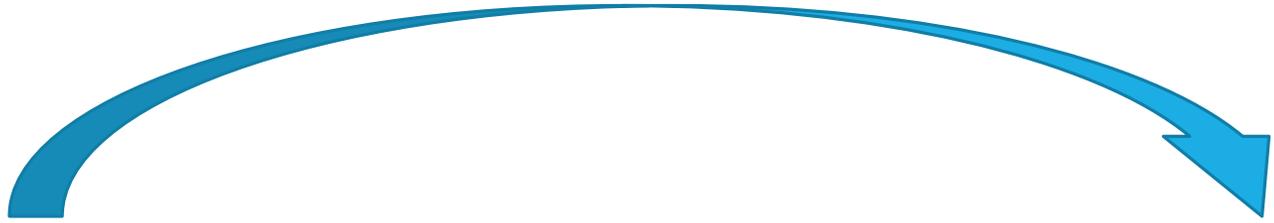


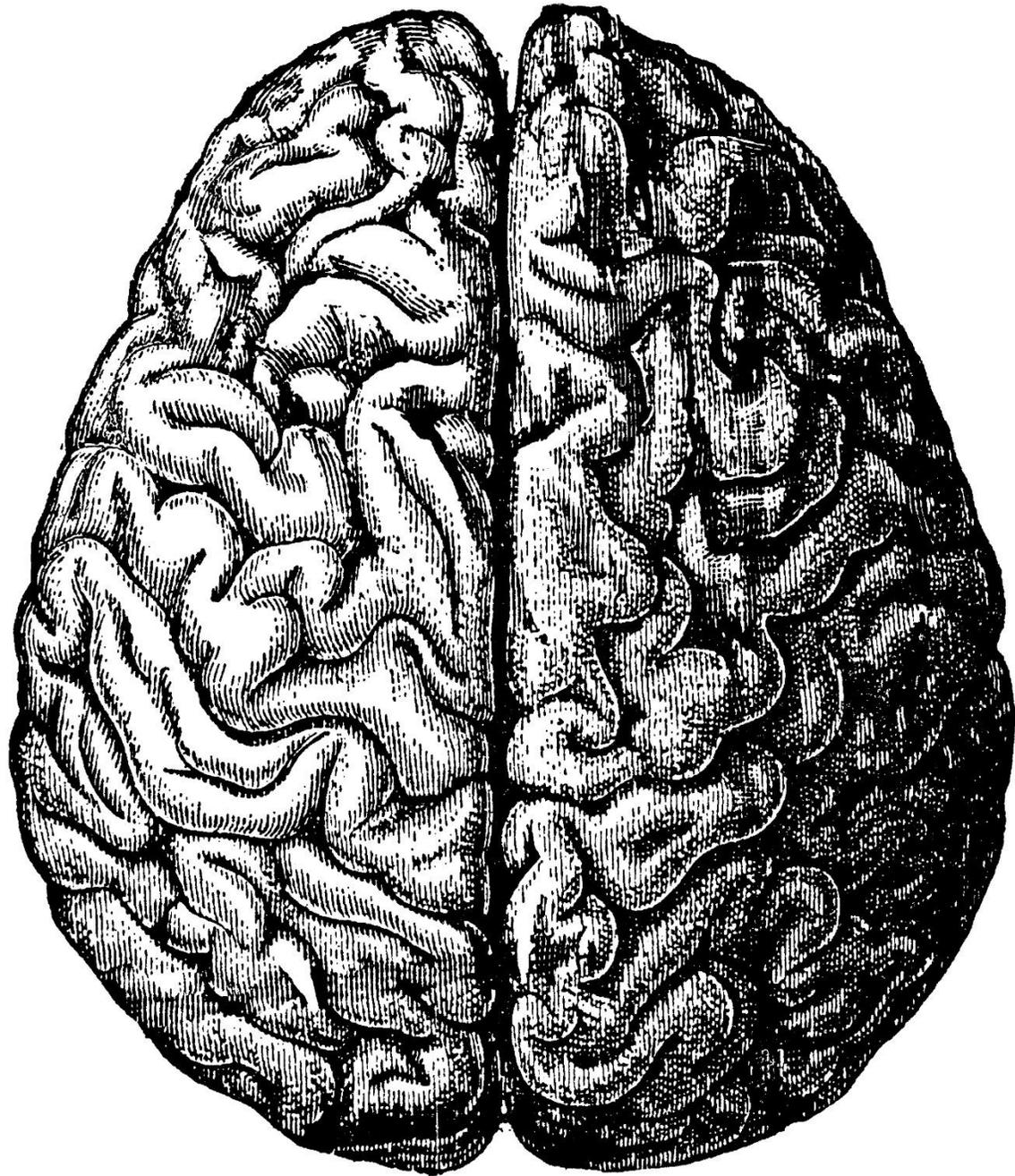


**The need for self-determination and
autonomy**

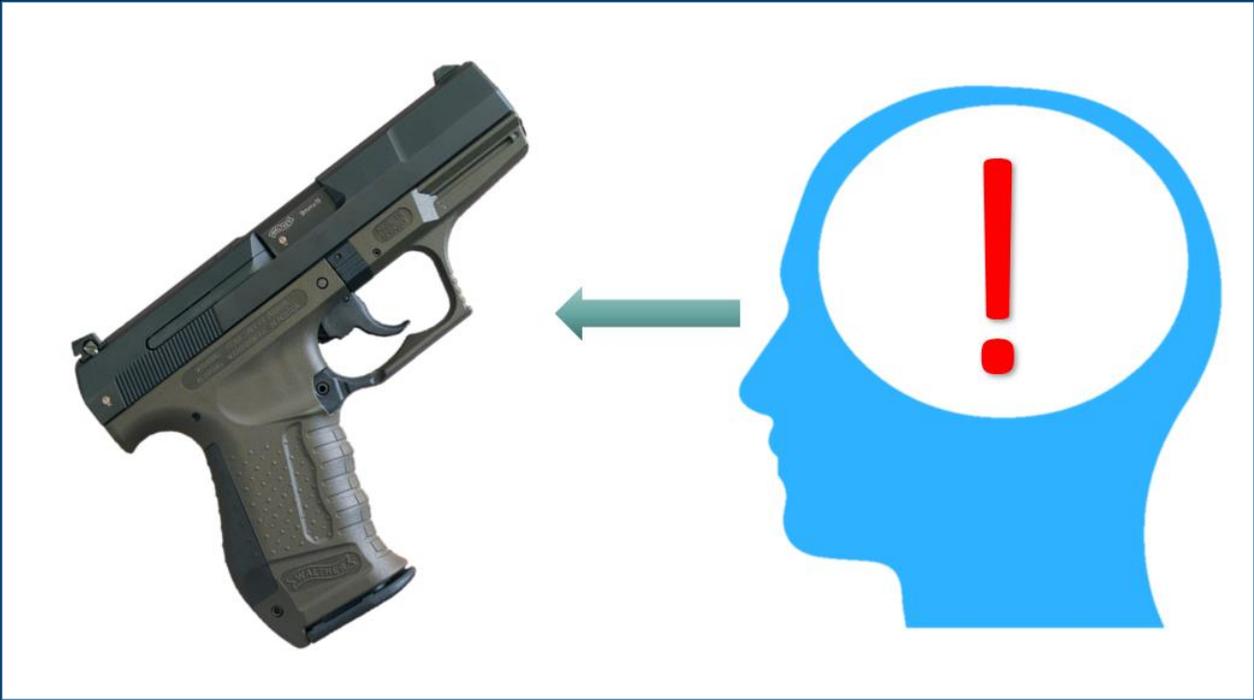
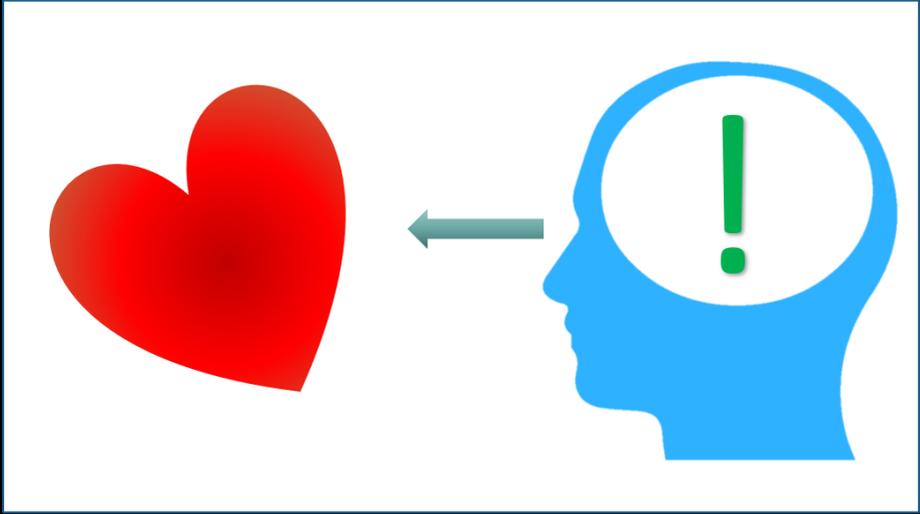
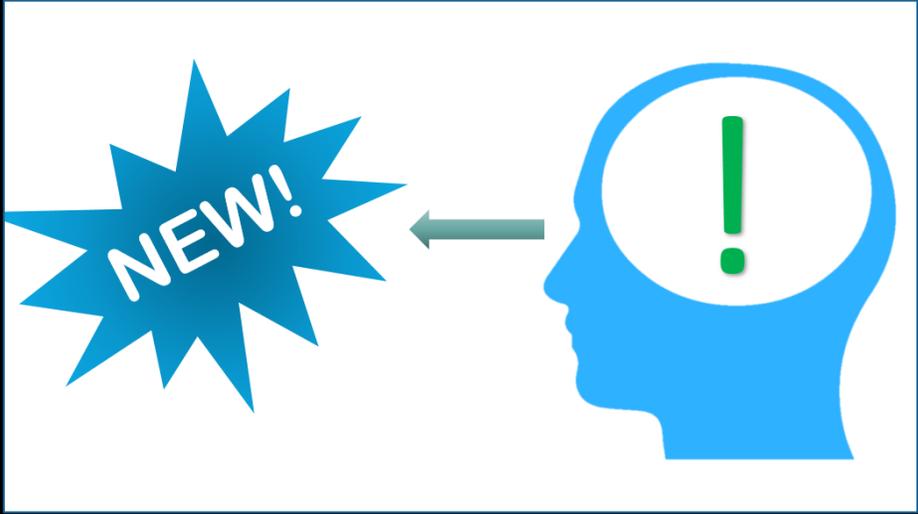


The need to feel competent







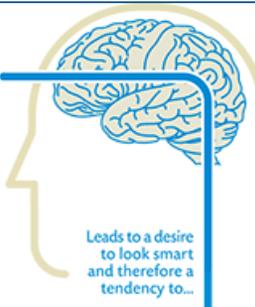






Fixed Mind-set

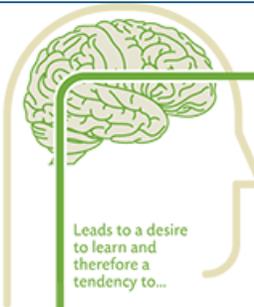
Intelligence is static



Leads to a desire to look smart and therefore a tendency to...

Growth Mind-set

Intelligence can be developed



Leads to a desire to learn and therefore a tendency to...

CHALLENGES

...avoid challenges



...embrace challenges



OBSTACLES

...give up easily



...persist in the face of setbacks



EFFORT

...see effort as fruitless or worse



...see effort as the path to mastery



CRITICISM

...ignore useful negative feedback



...learn from criticism



SUCCESS OF OTHERS

...feel threatened by the success of others



...find lessons and inspiration in the success of others



As a result, they may plateau early and achieve less than their full potential.
All this confirms a **deterministic view of the world.**

As a result, they reach ever-higher levels of achievement.
All this gives them a **greater sense of free will.**

THREAT

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As a result, they may plateau early
and achieve less than their full potential.

All this confirms a **deterministic view of the world.**

As a result, they reach ever-higher levels.

All this gives them a **greater sense of purpose.**



What are the
stories we
are telling to
our children?

Contact Information

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