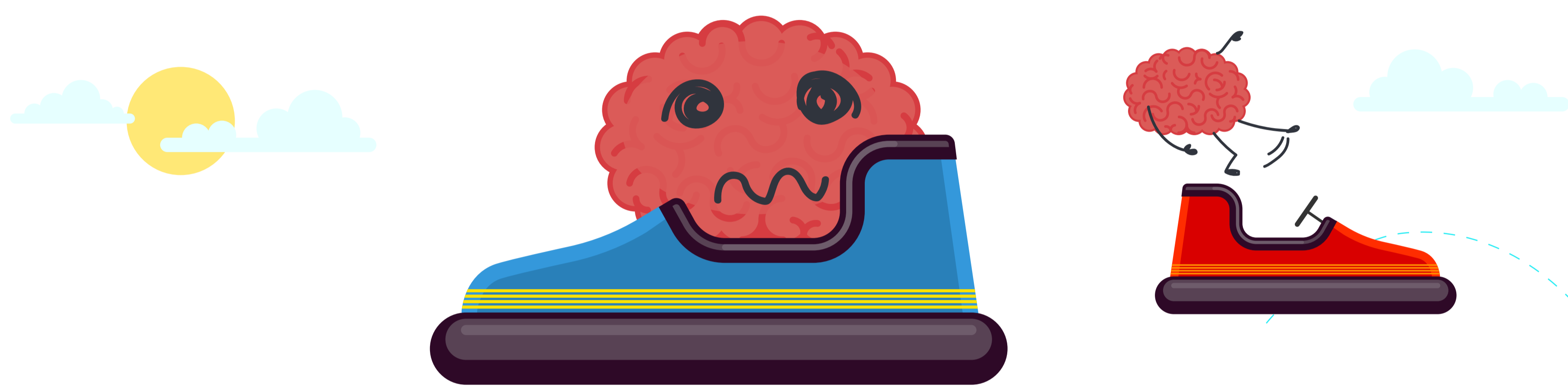


THE BRAIN'S REWARD NETWORK

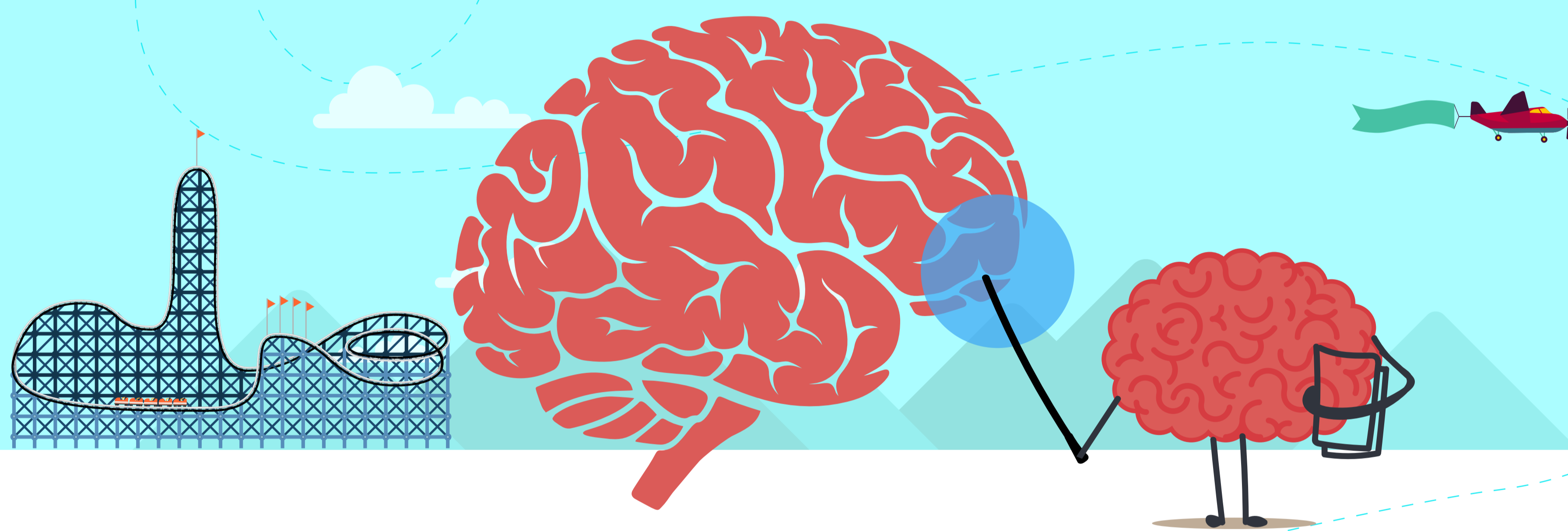
The brain's reward network ensures that we eat, sleep, drink water and other healthy behaviors, but addiction can hijack these functions. A lack of impulse control in the prefrontal cortex makes it more difficult for problem gamblers to stop gambling behaviors and less focus is placed on healthy self-care.



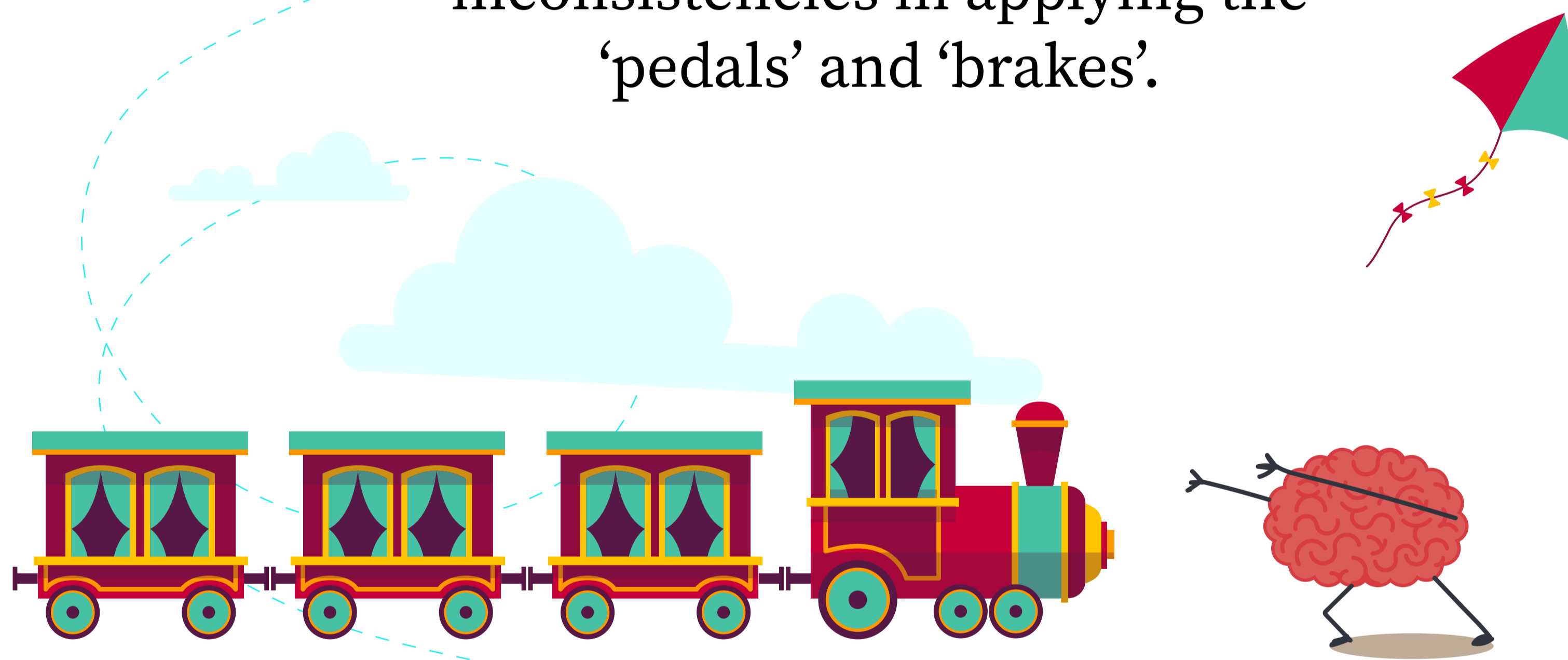
The brain's **REWARD HUB**, fueled by **DOPAMINE**, is like a gas pedal in a car- it's the **GO** that drives you to get what you want or what makes you happy.



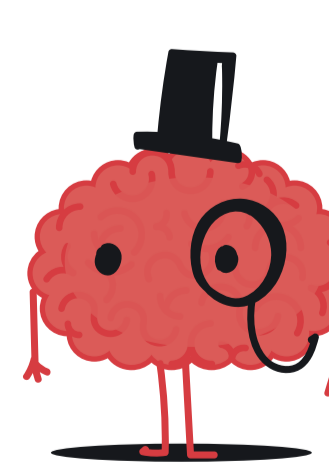
The brain's **TOP-DOWN NETWORK**, located in the pre-frontal cortex, is the 'brakes' to stop what you're doing.



The brain of a person with a **GAMBLING PROBLEM** shows inconsistencies in applying the 'pedals' and 'brakes'.



When given the 'stop' signal, the brain of an individual who gambles shows a **REDUCED ABILITY** to stop.



Resource Links:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28146248/>

<https://www.brainfacts.org/Diseases-and-Disorders/Addiction/2015/Gambling-Addiction-and-the-Brain>

<chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/viewer.html?pdfurl=https%3A%2F%2Fbrainconnections.ca%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2020%2F05%2Fh1-why-cant-stop.pdf&clen=1877698&chunk=true>

<https://www.responsiblegambling.org/for-the-public/about-gambling/the-science-behind-gambling/>

<http://www.youthgambling.com/>

<https://brainconnections.ca/mood-and-gambling/>