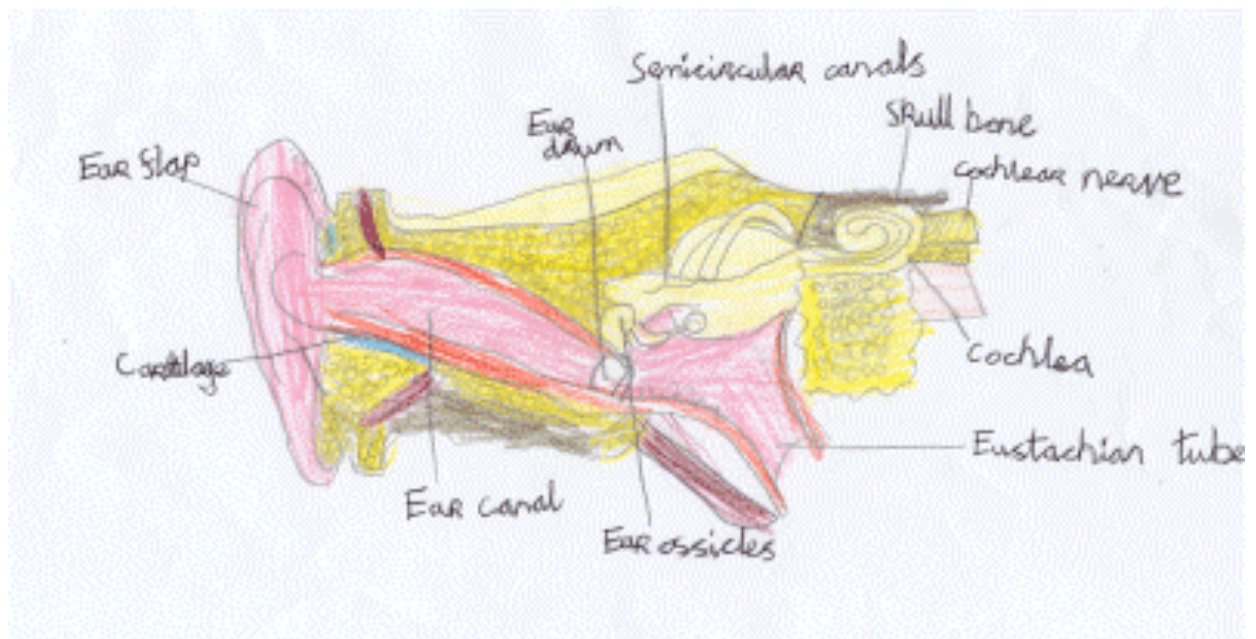


Learn about the Ear



Sound waves make their way through the ear canal. The waves then go into the ear drum. The ear drum is very thin. The Ear drums vibrate when the sound waves arrive. The sound waves go through three small bones, the hammer, anvil and stirrup. They are called the 'ear ossicles'. They bring the sound waves through a small space of air. It is called the 'Middle Ear Cavity'.

The sound waves then travel through the oval window to fluid in the inner ear. This fluid is called the endolymph. The sound waves make the endolymph fluid move. This causes tiny hair cells and the cochlea to vibrate. The hair cells are called hair cells because they look like tiny little hairs. The vibrations of the hair cells and the cochlea send messages to the auditory nerve. The auditory nerve brings the message to the brain. The brain understands the message as a type of sound.