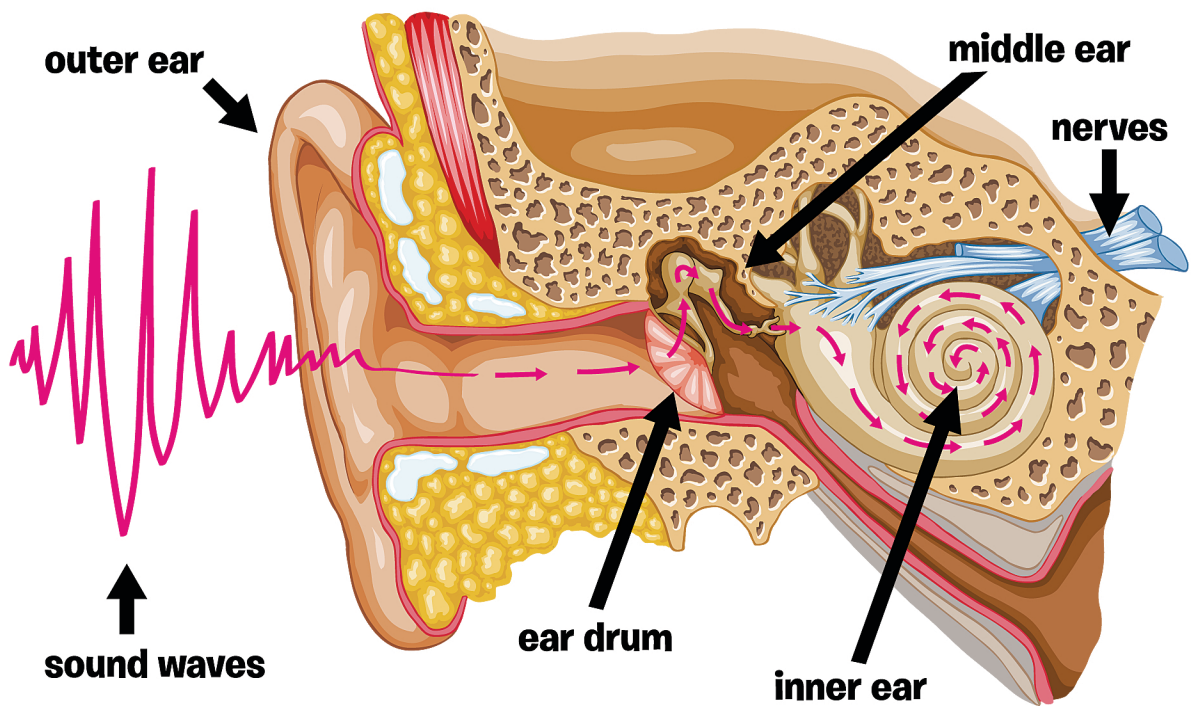


Sound is a form of **energy**. Pluck a guitar string and it vibrates, or moves back and forth. The **vibrations** form **sound waves**. Sound waves move through air, water, and solid material. As they travel, they collide with microscopic particles. Sound waves make these particles, called **molecules**, vibrate.

*Knock on a door and molecules in the door vibrate. The moving molecules collide with air particles, sending sound waves through the air.*





Sound waves in the air are collected by your outer ear. They travel to the **eardrum** and make it vibrate. Then, vibrations pass through bones in the middle ear to the inner ear. They bend tiny hairs in the inner ear, causing nerves to fire that send messages to the brain. Your brain hears sound.