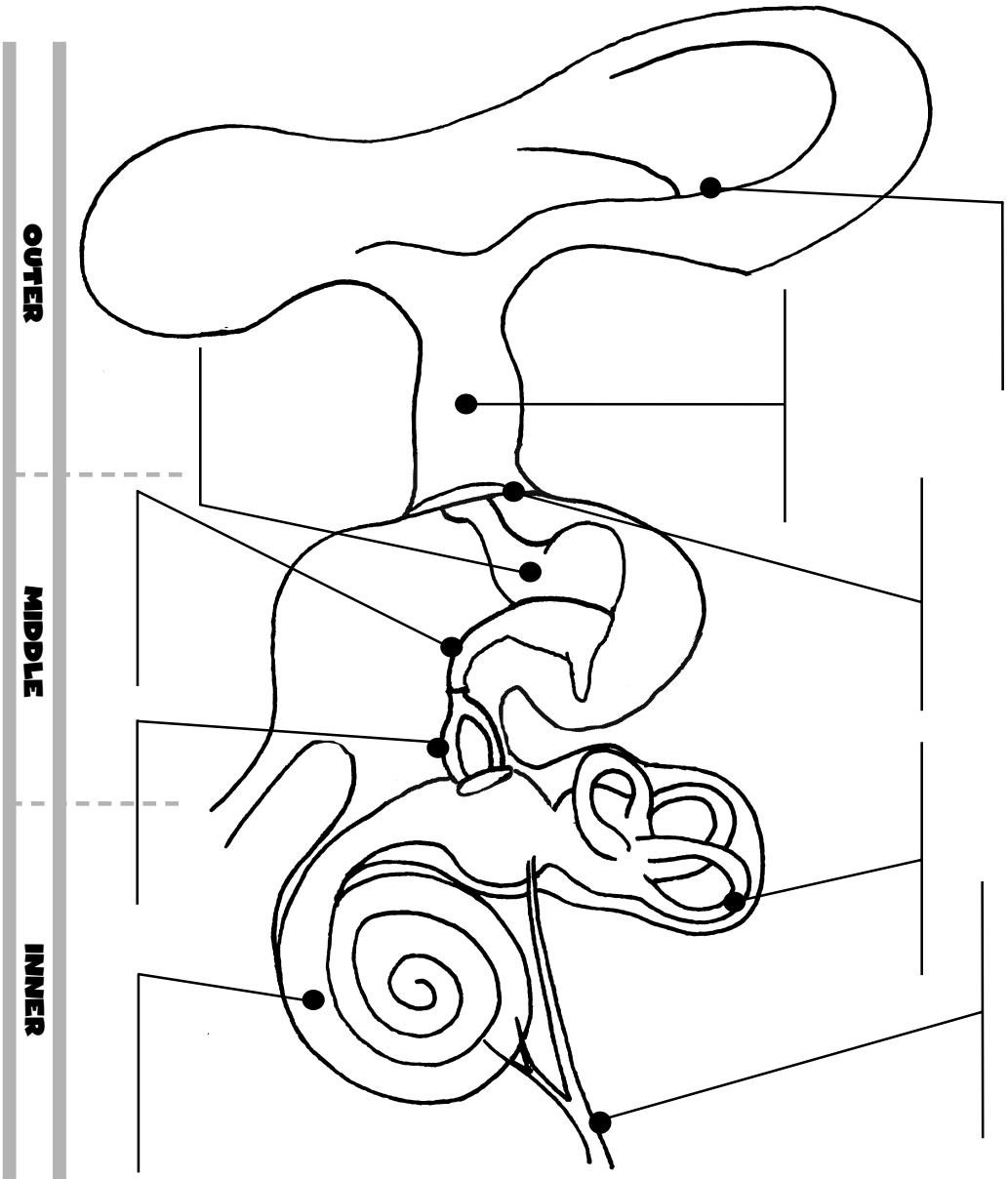


Name \_\_\_\_\_

# THE PARTS OF THE EAR

Directions: Read through the word list at right, then label the parts of the ear.



**OUTER**

**MIDDLE**

**INNER**

## Parts of the Outer Ear

**Pinna:** The outside part of the ear on the side of your head. It acts as a funnel to catch sound waves and pass them down the ear canal.  
**Ear Canal:** The tunnel through which sound waves travel to reach the middle parts of the ear.

## Parts of the Middle Ear

**Eardrum:** A membrane, right at the beginning of the middle ear, that is stretched across the ear canal and vibrates when sound hits it.  
**Hammer:** The first of a set of three tiny bones that move when the eardrum vibrates.  
**Anvil:** A tiny bone, which—when touched by the hammer—bumps into the last tiny bone (the stirrup).  
**Stirrup:** When this third tiny bone moves, it presses against the cochlea of the inner ear.

## Parts of the Inner Ear

**Cochlea:** A bony, fluid-filled spiral that receives sound waves when the stirrup presses against it. It translates the waves into something the brain can understand.  
**Auditory Nerve:** This nerve carries the signals of sound waves from the cochlea to the brain.

**Bonus:** Can you find the **Semicircular Canals**? These are three ducts in the inner ear that control our ears' balance of sound.