

Sound is perceived naturally by way of air and bone conduction.

- ① Sound waves travel through the **ear canal** and strike the **eardrum**.
- ② These sound waves cause the eardrum and the three **bones** within the middle ear to vibrate.
- ③ These vibrations are transferred to the fluids in the inner ear (**cochlea**) and cause the tiny hair cells in the cochlea to move.
- ④ The movement of the hair cells produces neural impulses which are sent along the hearing nerve to the brain, where they are interpreted as sound.

