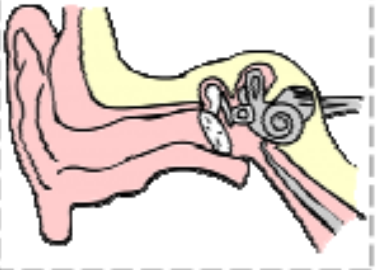
The sound wave reaches the **ear**. The wave travels deep inside the ear, where it is turned into an **electrical signal** that the brain understands as **sound**.

The vibrating object causes the **particles** in the **air** around it to vibrate too, because it is touching them.



The vibrating air particles bump into other air particles further away, causing them to vibrate too. This is called a **sound wave**. It gradually moves away from the **source**.

An object starts to **vibrate**, or move very quickly back and forth. This is called a **sound source**. An example of a sound source is a plucked guitar string.