

Message
Received!



Sharon Coan

Message Received!



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with our eyes. How else do your ears and eyes work
together?"— Provided by publisher.

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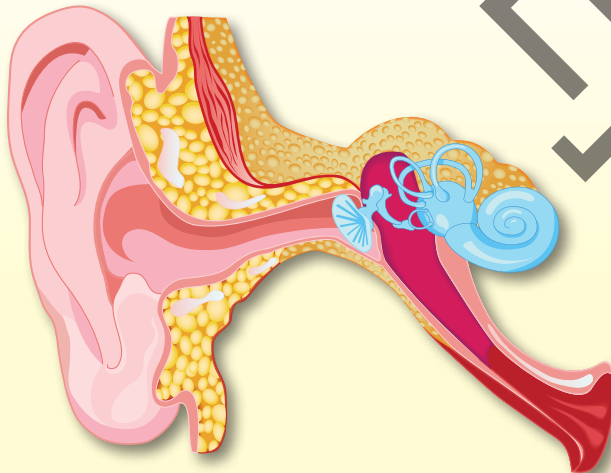
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At the Animal Shelter

It is noisy! There is so much to see! You do not know where to look first. You are at the animal shelter to get a new pet. Which one will you choose?

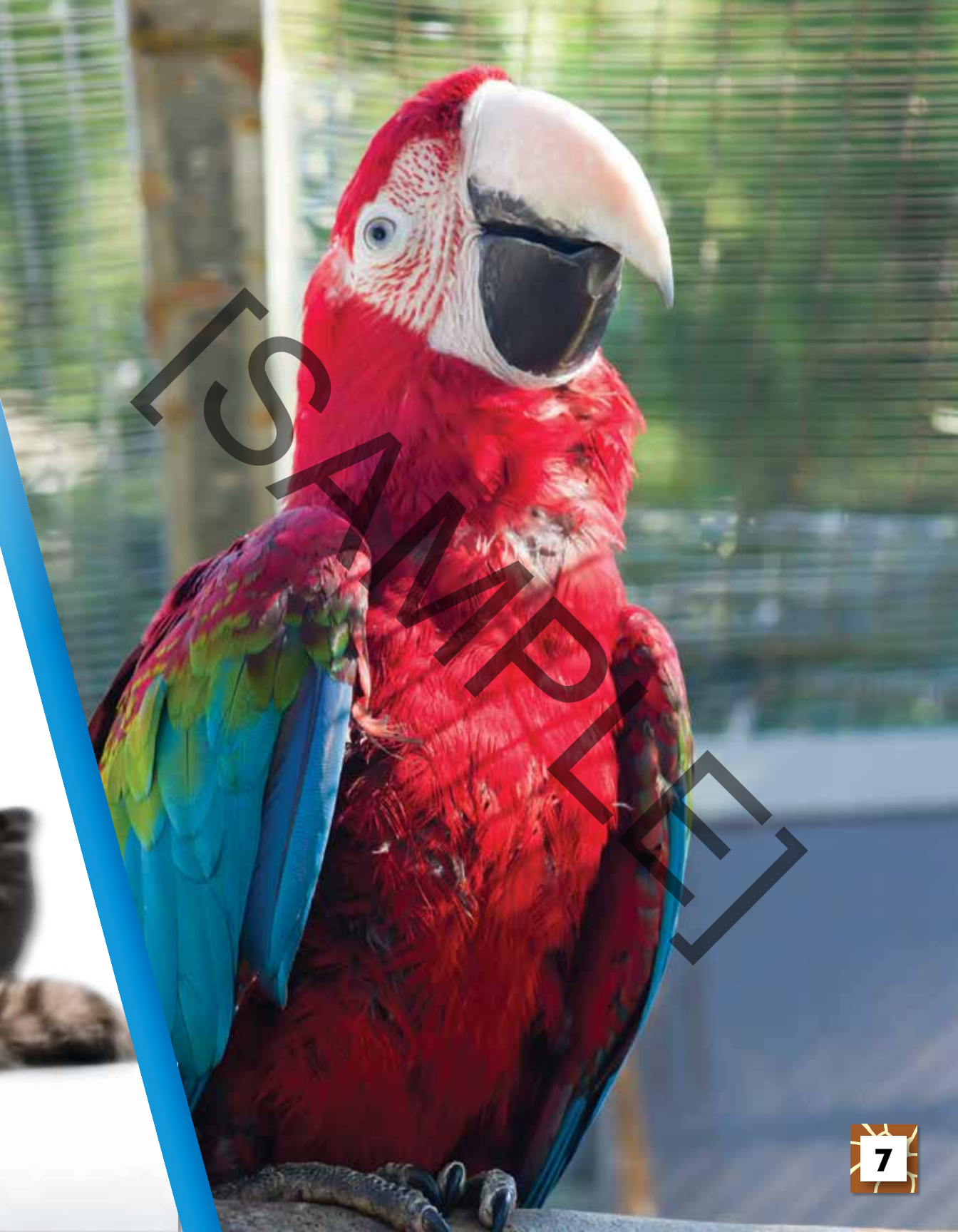
Animal shelters have many types of pets.





You hold a soft kitten. She purrs quietly in your arms. You hear a puppy, “Yip, yip, yip!” His tail is wagging quickly. A colorful parrot catches your eye. It squawks, “Hello! Hello!”





Your ears and eyes are really busy. So is your brain. Your ears and eyes collect many sounds and sights. Your brain figures out what they are.



You hear a hamster wheel spinning.



You hear dogs barking.

You see a cat.



The Ears Hear It!

A lot of your ear is inside your head. The part of the ear on the outside is shaped like a **funnel**.

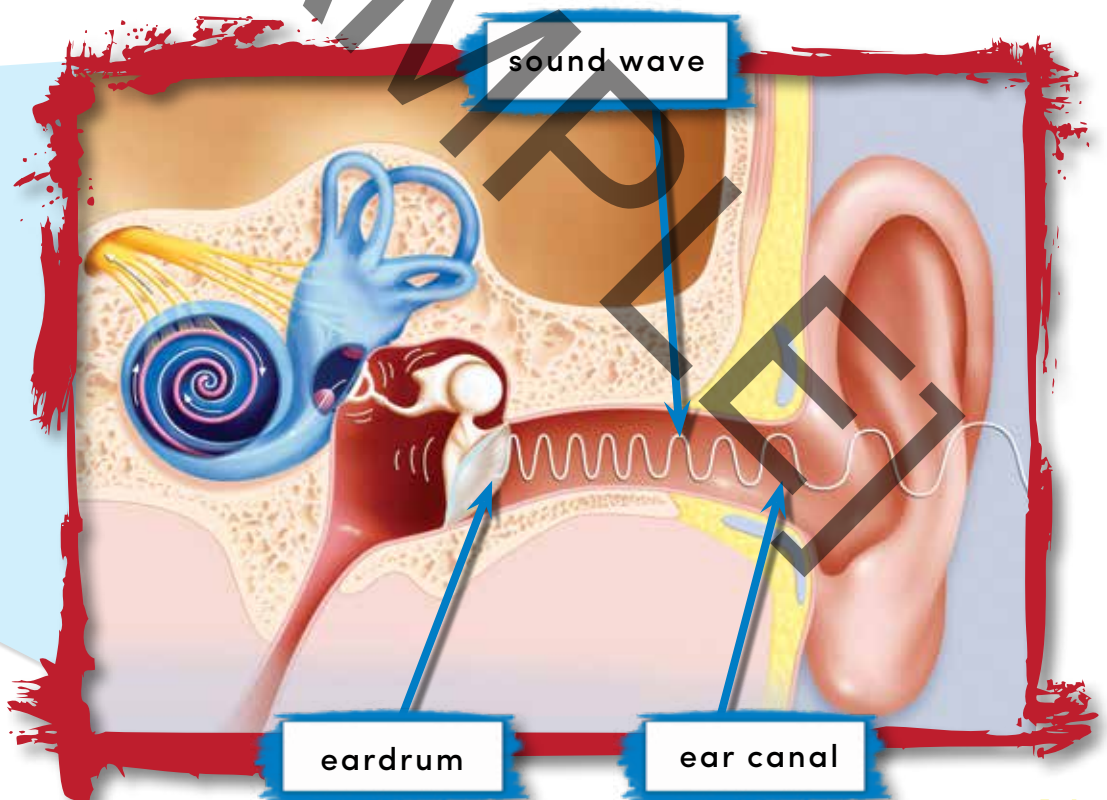


funnel

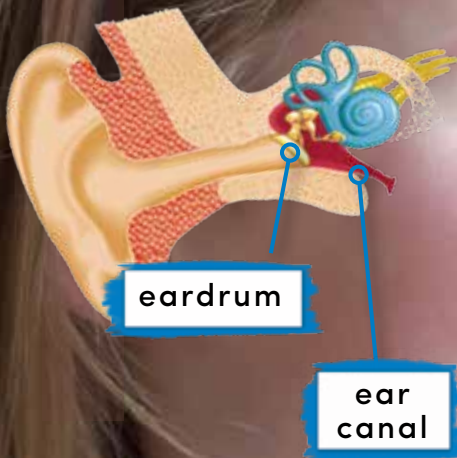


Only a small part of your ear can be seen.

The funnel collects sound waves. It directs them down the ear canal. At the end, the sound waves bump the **eardrum**. The eardrum starts to **vibrate** (VAHY-breyt).



The **vibrations** (vahy-BREY-shuhnz) make the tiny bones inside your ear move. The bones pass the vibrations to the inner ear.



There, the vibrations are turned into **nerve** signals (SIG-nlɪz) that go to your brain. Your brain makes sense of those signals. You think, “I hear a kitten purring.”



Got Nerves?

Nerves go to and from all parts of your body. They send all kinds of signals to your brain.

The Eyes See It!

Like the ear, most of your eye is inside your head.

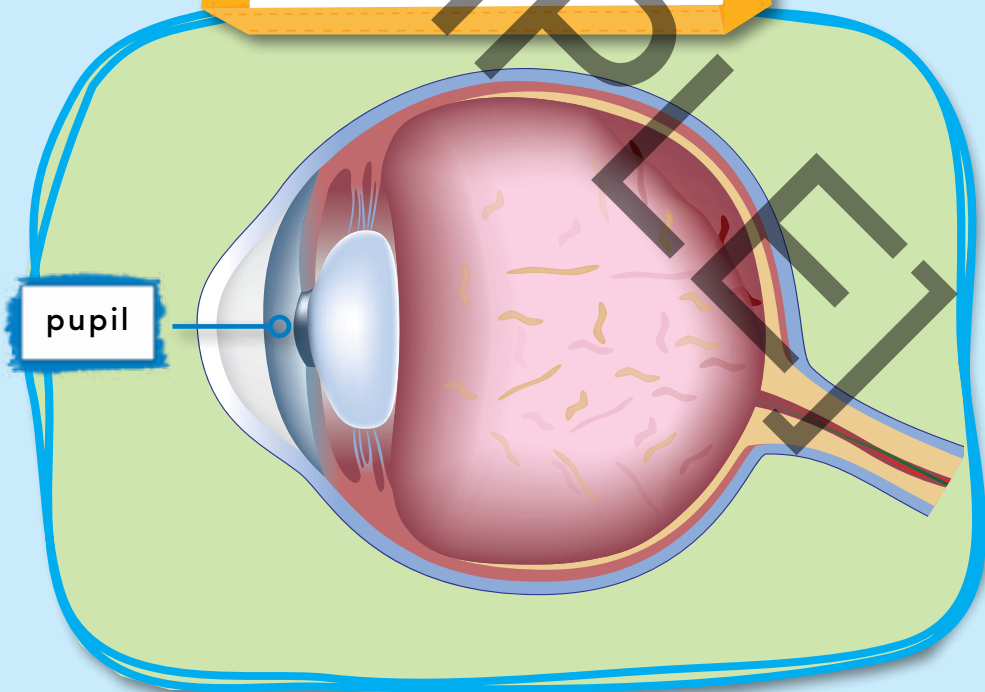


pupil

Light passes into the back of your eye through the **pupil**.

Your Pupil

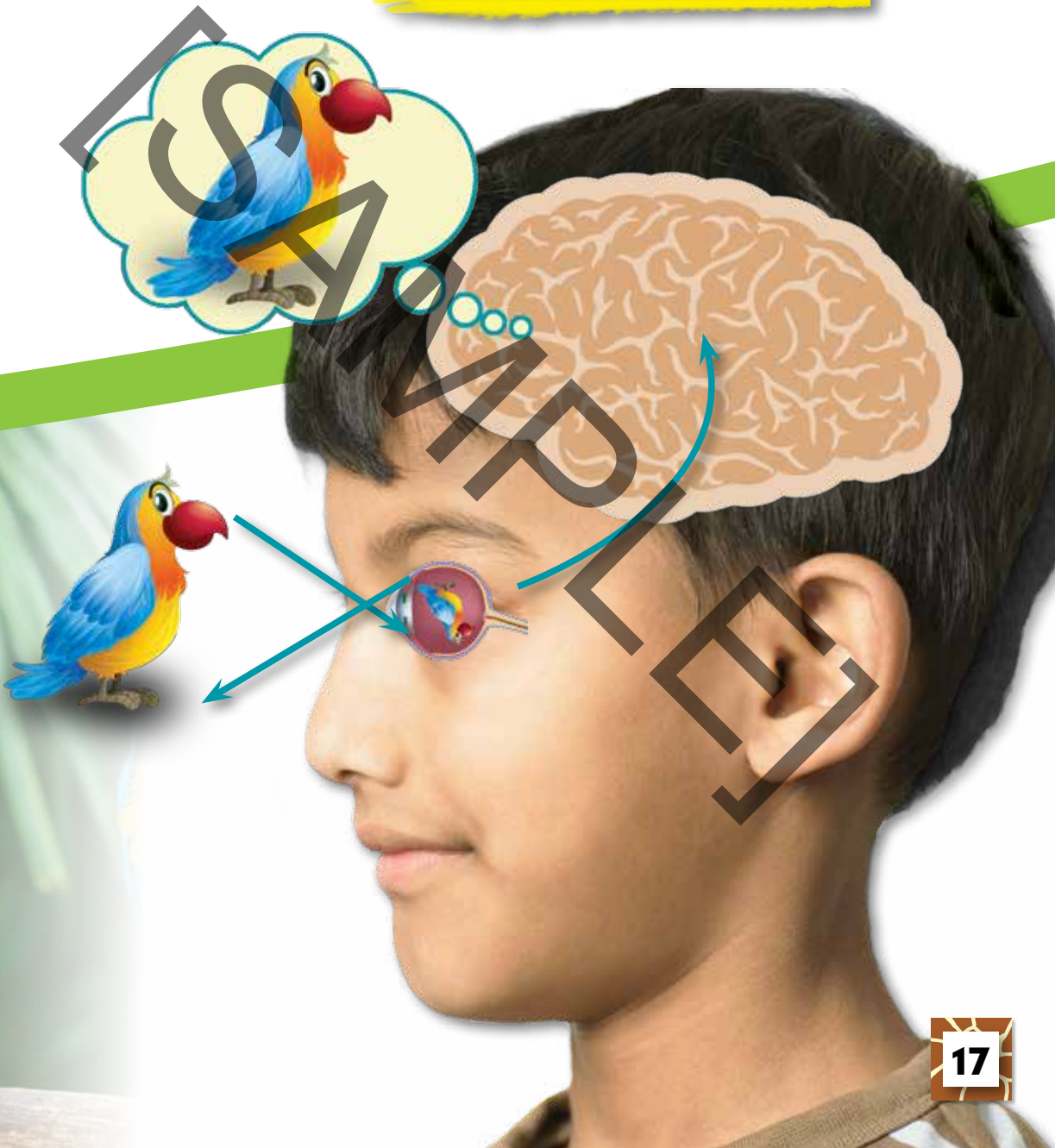
Your pupil gets bigger in the dark and smaller in bright light. This helps you see better.



Inside your eye, light is turned into nerve signals. The signals flow to the brain. The **image** (IM-ij) arrives in your brain upside down! But, do not worry, your smart brain turns the image right side up and tells you what it is. You see a colorful parrot!



The parrot looks upside down to your brain. Then, your brain flips the image.



Time to Choose

Whew! What a lot of work your ears and eyes and brain have done. These senses will help you choose your pet. What will it be?



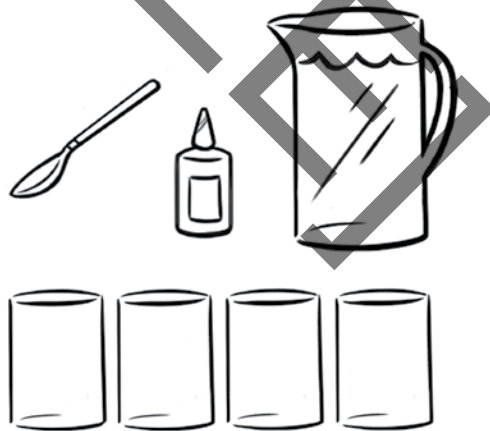


Let's Do Science!

How do sight and sound work together? Try this and see!

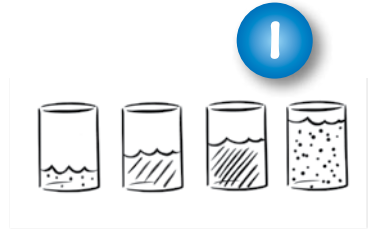
What to Get

- 4 clear water glasses
- food coloring
- spoon
- water

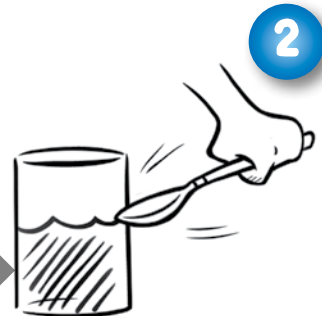


What to Do

- 1 Fill each glass with a different amount of water. Add a different color of food coloring to each glass.



- 2 Strike each glass gently with the spoon. What do you see? What do you hear?



- 3 Strike the glasses to make a tune. Use the colors to tell a friend how to play the tune.



Glossary

eardrum—a little piece of skin in the ear that sound waves hit

funnel—a cone-shaped object that directs things from the large end to the small end

image—a picture

nerve—a bundle of fibers that carries messages between parts of the body and the brain

pupil—the small, black, round area at the center of the eye

vibrate—to move back and forth very fast

vibrations—fast back and forth movements

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Your Turn!



Sights and Sounds

Think about how your ears and eyes work together. Keep a journal. Make notes about where you hear interesting sounds. Draw pictures of the things you see that make the sounds.

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