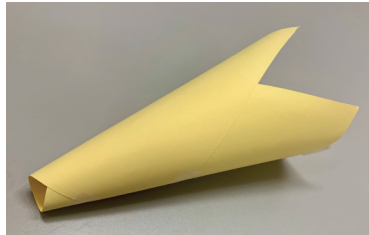
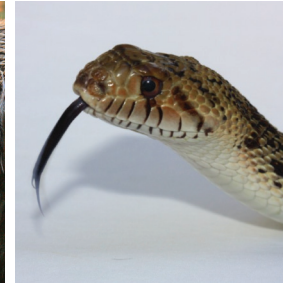
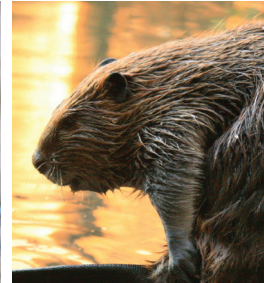


Can You Hear Me?

What do you notice about the ears of these Oregon animals?

What you'll need:

- Sheet of heavy paper
- String or yarn (3-4 ft)
- Tape
- Metal spoon or coat hanger
- Variety of craft materials (optional)



Catching Sound

Many animals with exceptional hearing, like deer or rabbits, have large outer ears that help “catch” more sounds in the environment. This adaptation can help them survive when hunted by predators.

1. Roll a heavy piece of paper into a funnel, leaving a one-inch hole at the end. Tape it in place.
2. Hold the small end next to your ear and point the big end towards different sounds. Move your head around slowly. Can you “catch” the sounds?
3. Turn on music at a low volume or ask someone to crumple paper across the room. Take a walk outside and listen to traffic, the wind, or bird sounds. Does the funnel ear change how you hear?



4. Design your own ears using craft and recyclable materials you have at home. Try making ears with different shapes, like a tube, a tall rabbit ear, or an even a bigger funnel. How do the ears change your hearing?

Feeling Sound

Some animals feel sounds. For example, snakes do not have ears, but they do feel sound waves, or vibrations, through their jawbones. Try feeling sound waves through a piece of string.

1. Tie the spoon to the middle of the string.
2. Wrap the ends of the string around each index finger. Press your fingers gently against the small flap at the front of each ear, so that your ears are plugged.
3. Lean forward and swing the spoon against a hard surface. What do you hear?
4. Try this again on a different surface or with a different object tied to the string. What do you notice?

