

# What Is an Audiologist?

**au·di·ol·o·gist** \ó-dē-'ü-lə-jist\ noun

The professional who specializes in evaluating, diagnosing, and treating people with hearing loss and balance disorders.

## 10 Fun Facts About Hearing

- 1 Fish do not have ears, but they can hear pressure changes through ridges on their body.
- 2 The ear's malleus, incus and stapes (otherwise known as the hammer, anvil and stirrup) are the smallest bones in the human body. All three together could fit together on a penny.
- 3 The ear continues to hear sounds, even while you sleep.
- 4 Sound travels at the speed of 1,130 feet per second, or 770 miles per hour.
- 5 Dogs can hear much higher frequencies than humans.
- 6 Ears not only help you hear, but also aid in balance.
- 7 Snakes hear through the jaw bone and through a traditional inner ear. In essence, snakes have two distinct hearing mechanisms, which helps them hear and catch prey.
- 8 Sitting in front of the speakers at a rock concert can expose you to 120 decibels, which will begin to damage hearing in only 7 1/2 minutes.
- 9 Thirty-seven percent of children with only minimal hearing loss fail at least one grade.
- 10 Male mosquitoes hear with thousands of tiny hairs growing on their antennae.

### REFERENCES

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## October Is National Audiology Awareness Month.

Visit [www.HowsYourHearing.org](http://www.HowsYourHearing.org) to find an audiologist near you or to learn more about a career in audiology.

**American Academy of Audiology**