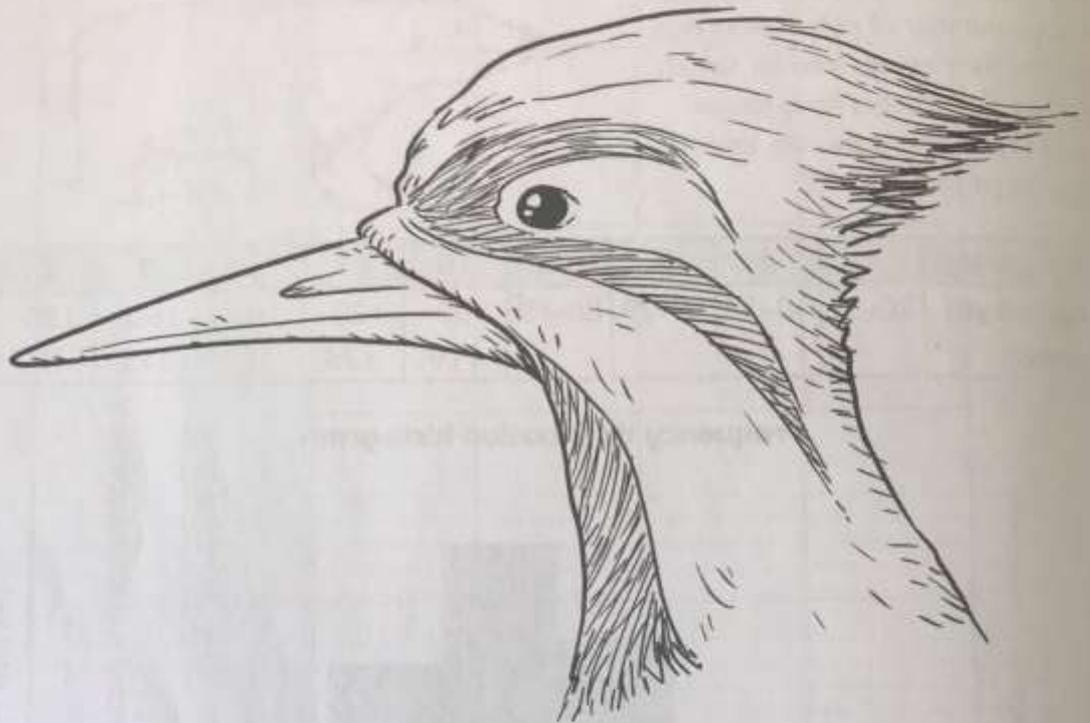


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## A woodpecker's beak



The woodpecker's head has four special features:

1. The beak is a hard outer case. It is very strong and does not bend or fracture.
2. The skull allows little room for movement of the bird's brain and this cuts down on vibrations. (In humans, the fluid at the front of the brain allows the brain to move forwards and hit the front of the skull.)
3. The hyoid (a springy bony support for the woodpecker's tongue) spreads the force of the impact evenly.
4. A spongy bone behind the beak absorbs the shock and prevents harmful vibrations reaching the woodpecker's brain.

- Using this information about the woodpecker's head, try and improve the design of your egg protector.

I can describe how a woodpecker is adapted for drumming on trees.

How did you do?

