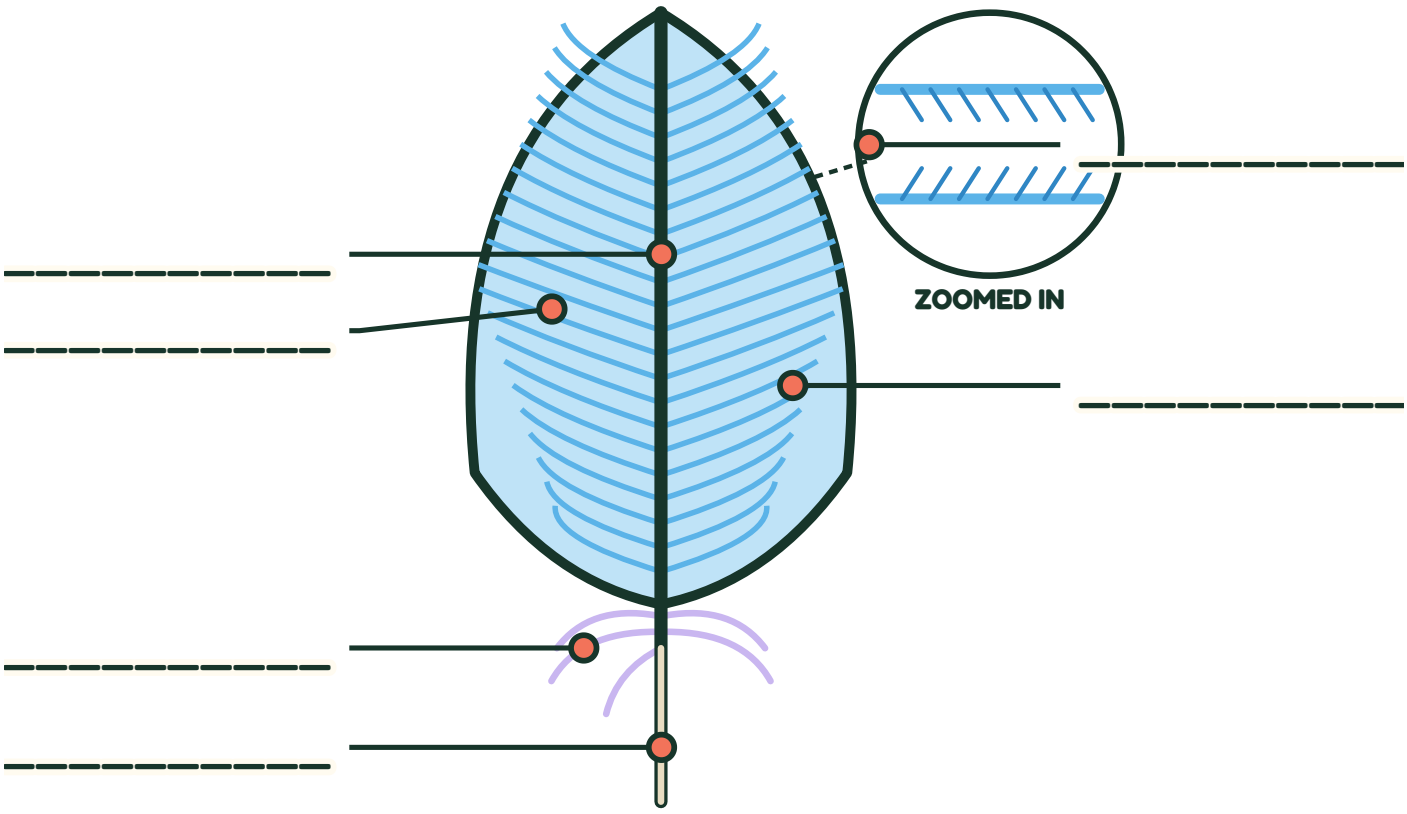
Label the Parts of a Feather

Write the correct part name on each line. Use the word bank.

Name: _____ Date: _____

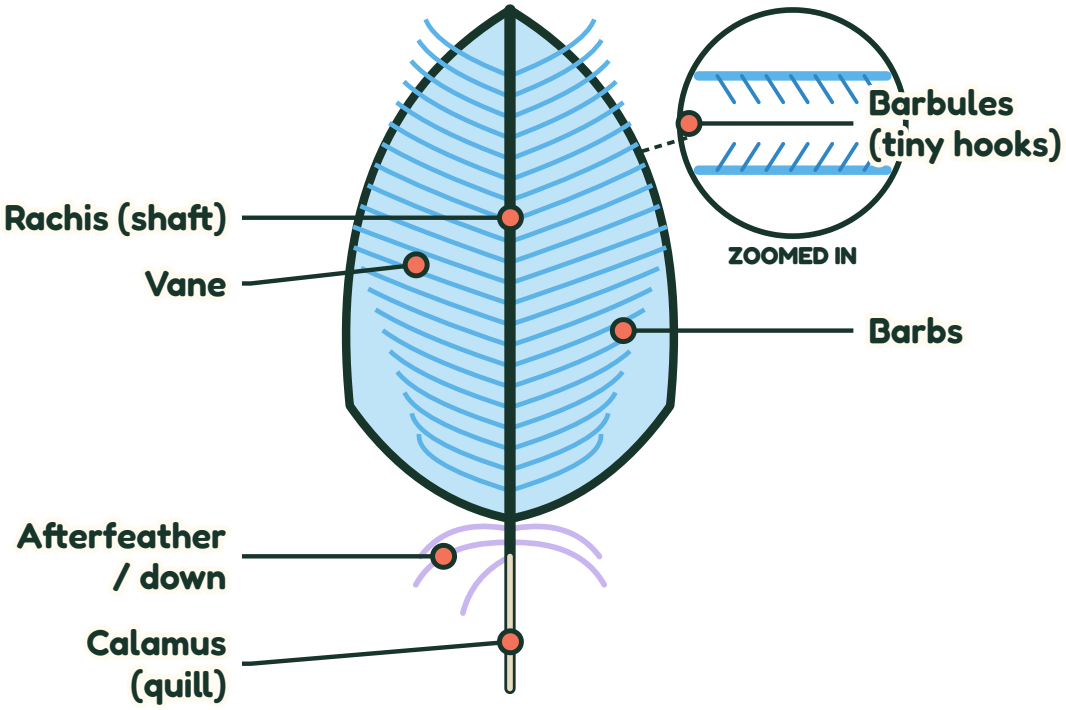


Word bank

Afterfeather / down • Barbs • Barbules (tiny hooks) • Calamus (quill) • Rachis (shaft) • Vane

Answer Key

Parts of a Feather



Bonus: match the word to its meaning

1. rachis ____	A. the stiff central shaft of a feather
2. calamus ____	B. a tiny branch on a barb; many carry hooklets
3. barb ____	C. shedding old feathers and growing new ones
4. barbule ____	D. the hollow base of a feather, also called the quill
5. molting ____	E. one of the thin branches that grow from the rachis

Answers: 1–A, 2–D, 3–E, 4–B, 5–C