

Static Electricity Experiment

Let's test out the saying that "Opposites Attract"!

What You Will Need:

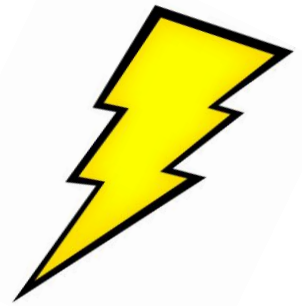
- 2 inflated balloons with string attached
- Your hair
- Aluminum can
- Woolen fabric (Wilbur recommends carpet or blanket)

Instructions:

1. Rub the two balloons one by one against the woolen fabric.
2. Try moving the balloons together. Are they attracted to each other?
3. Rub one of the balloons back and forth on your hair then slowly pull it away. Ask someone around what they see. Is your hair stuck to the balloon?
4. Put the aluminum can on its side on a table, after rubbing the balloon on your hair again hold the balloon close to the can and watch as the can rolls toward the balloon. Slowly move the can away from the balloon and it will follow.

What's Happening?

Rubbing the balloons against the woolen fabric or your hair creates static electricity. Negative charged particles jump to positive charged objects. When you rub the balloons against your hair or the fabric they become negatively charged, they have taken some of the electrons from the hair and fabric and left them



positively charged. Try inflating the balloon to different sizes and see if there are any changes to the static electricity!