

Experiment

#1

Shocking!



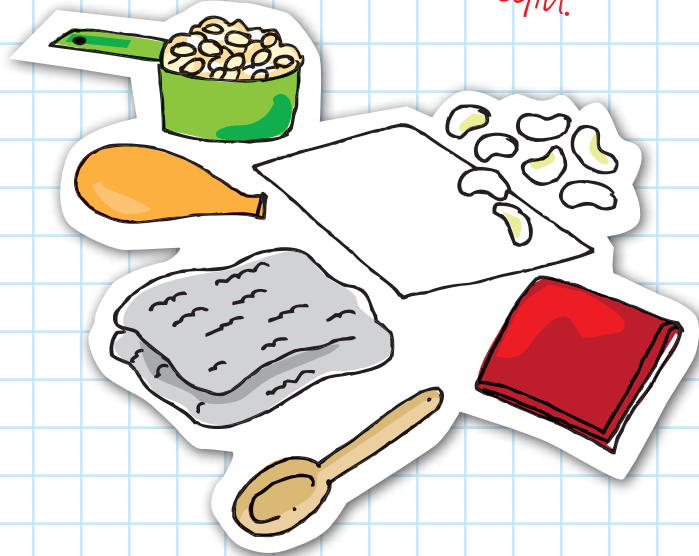
↖ Static electricity can make your hair stand on end!

Our first experiment is going to deal with static electricity. Have you ever gotten a shock walking across a carpet or getting out of a car? If so, you have had experience with static electricity. All electricity is the flow of **electrons** in matter. A static electricity shock comes from the release or discharge of electrons.

Static electricity is electricity that is made by rubbing two substances together. Let's create an experiment to test static electricity. Will rubbing any two substances together make static electricity? Our hypothesis is: **Only certain substances will create static electricity.**

Here's what you'll need:

- A balloon
- A cup of popped rice cereal
- A piece of plain paper
- A handful of Styrofoam packing peanuts
- A silk scarf
- A wooden spoon
- A piece of 100 percent wool material



Gather your materials before you begin.

Instructions:

1. Blow up the balloon and tie it. Rub the balloon very quickly against the top of your head. Gently pull the balloon away from your head. What happens to your hair?