SCIENCE FROM HOME





Dancing Tissue

How do you make a tissue dance? Put a little boogie in it...or use static electricity! Try to make a tissue move around by generating static electricity. Learn the components of static electricity: negatively charged electrons attracted to positively charged protons.

Materials

- Tissues
- Regular paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Markers
- Balloons
- Head with hair

Instructions

- Cut a tissue and a piece of regular paper in matching, simple shapes with a lot of surface area such as hearts, ghosts, fruit, whatever you like! Use the markers to decorate your shapes, just for fun. If the tissue is two-ply, carefully peel off a layer and just use one piece.
- Tape just a small section of each of your cut-outs to the table so that most of the shape is free to move.
- Blow up a balloon and tie it off.
- Rub the balloon quickly on your head and hair, and then slowly bring the balloon towards the shapes. If you've rubbed the balloon enough, the shapes will move with the balloon. The regular paper will not move as easily as the tissue but with enough rubbing, it will work!
 - O How do you think the tissue and paper moved? When you rub the balloon on your hair it generates negatively charged electrons on the surface of the balloon, and when you move it near the tissue or paper, it is attracted to their naturally positively charged protons.
 - o Why do you think the tissue moves more easily than the regular paper?
 - o Can you use the negatively charged balloon to attract other positively charged surfaces? Can you get the balloon to stick to the wall using the same method?

