

Name _____

The Effect of Static Electricity on Movement

Scientific Question: Can a charged balloon cause a neutral object to move without touching it?

Background Research: Rubbing a balloon creates an invisible force called static electricity. This is an electric force.

Hypothesis: If a balloon is rubbed on hair to charge it, then it (will / will not) be able to pull a tissue paper butterfly without touching it.

Materials:

- 1 balloon
- Wool cloth or your hair
- Tissue paper
- Scissors

Procedure:

1. Cut a small butterfly shape from the tissue paper and place it on the table.
2. Without rubbing it, slowly bring the balloon close to the butterfly. Observe and record what happens.
3. Now, rub the balloon quickly on the wool or your hair for 30 seconds.
4. Slowly bring the charged balloon close to the butterfly again without letting it touch. Observe and record what happens.



Data Collection:

Condition	Observation (What did the butterfly do?)
Balloon NOT Rubbed	
Balloon Rubbed	

Conclusion:

Did your results support your hypothesis? (Yes / No)