

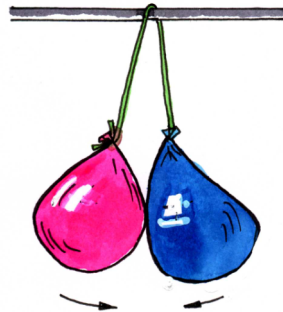
Experiment 5

Testing for Negative and Positive Charges of Static Electricity

Materials you will need:

- a piece of wool cloth
- two balloons (same size, preferably round shape)
- thin string (2 meters long)

1. Inflate both of your balloons and knot them to stop the air from escaping.
2. Tie them at each end of the same piece of string.
3. Hang the string up by the middle, making sure not to let anything else touch the balloons.
4. Observe what happens.



The balloons are not charged with static electricity,
so they hang downwards against one another.

5. Now take the balloons down and rub each several times on the wool cloth and hang them up again.
6. Observe what happens.
7. Try to reason why something happened and make a hypothesis. (If nothing happens rub them again and repeat the experiment.)

Leave the balloons hanging and see what happens when they are left for a period of time.

Information

Materials that are non-conductors of electricity can be charged with static electricity. This charge can be positive or negative. If one is charged with a positive charge and the other with a negative charge they will be attracted to one another.

If they are both charged with the same charge, negative or positive, they will repel one another.

✚ Portfolio

- Make notes and drawings of your experiment in your portfolio.
- Make a list of all new words and their meaning.