

Date: _____ Name: _____

Static Electricity

Part One

1. Pour some salt and pepper onto a sheet of paper.
2. Bring the uncharged balloon close to the salt and pepper. What do you observe? _____

3. Now charge the balloon by rubbing it against your hair or clothing. Bring the balloon close to the salt and pepper again. What do you observe? _____

4. Did both the salt and pepper react the same way? _____

5. Wipe the balloon with a damp cloth. What does this do to the balloon? _____

6. Tear the tissue paper into dime-size pieces. Put the tissue pieces on a sheet of paper.
7. Charge the balloon again. What do you think will happen if you bring the balloon near the pieces of tissue paper? _____

8. Test your prediction by bringing the charged balloon close to the pieces of tissue paper. What do you observe? _____

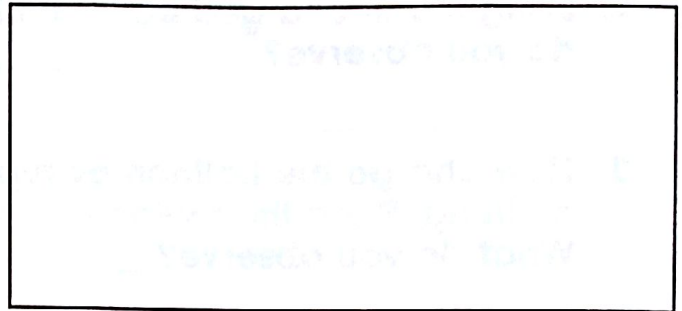
9. Why were the pieces of tissue paper attracted to the balloon? _____

10. What other objects do you think might be attracted to a charged balloon? Test a few objects. Record your results.

Part Two

1. Blow up two balloons and tie them shut.
2. Tie a long piece of thread to the end of each balloon.
3. Charge one of the balloons by rubbing it on your hair or clothing. What do you think will happen if the two balloons are brought close together? _____

4. Test your predictions by bringing the two balloons close together. Record your observations and draw a labelled diagram of what happened.



5. Wipe both balloons with a damp cloth.
6. Now charge both balloons. What do you think will happen if you bring the two charged balloons close together? _____

7. Test your predictions by bringing the two balloons close together. Record your observations and draw a labelled diagram of what happened.



8. What have you learned about static electric charges? _____
