

08-01 Create Static Electricity

Name: _____

Objective: Create static electricity.

Materials:

- Copper, Plastic, Glass rods
- Aluminum foil, silk, fur, etc.

Observe

1. Cut up some paper into little pieces (less than 0.5 cm) and put them on a clear space on your desk.
2. Rub the plastic rod with the fur.
3. Hold the rod over the pieces of paper. What happens? _____
4. Rub the metal rod with the fur.
5. Hold the rod over the pieces of paper. What happens? _____

Hypothesize

6. Make a testable hypothesis about which objects when rubbed together will attract the little pieces of paper.

Test

7. Test your hypothesis using the materials provided. Make a table to organize your results. Make sure to remove the static between tests by sliding your hand down the entire length of the rod.

	Fur	Silk	Foil		
Plastic Rod					
Glass Rod					
Metal Rod					

Conclusions

8. The paper is attracted to the rods because of static electricity. Static electricity is created when one material strips electrons from another material so that the first becomes negatively charged and the second becomes positively charged. From your testing, what are the properties of the materials that produce good static electricity when rubbed together?

