



Things to make and do

Make a ghost dance

This spooky effect could be Halloween magic or maybe it's the power of static electricity...

What you need

- Pen
- White tissue paper
- Scissors
- Sticky tape
- Balloon

How does it work?

Static electricity is what happens when electrical charge builds up on the surface of an object. Rubbing a balloon on your hair transfers tiny negatively charged particles called electrons to the balloon's surface, giving it an overall negative electrical charge. When the balloon gets close to the tissue paper, its negative charge pushes away electrons in the tissue. Left with slight opposite electrical charge, the tissue ghost is attracted to the balloon and rises.

DID YOU KNOW?

Static electricity is used in printers. The static charge attracts ink to the paper.



1 Draw a ghost shape on a single piece of white tissue paper. Cut it out using scissors. Stick the bottom to a table with sticky tape.



2 Blow up a balloon and knot the end. Then rub the balloon on your hair for 15 seconds to build up a charge of static electricity.



3 Now when you bring the balloon close to the ghost it will magically flutter up from the table. Woo-ooo!