

## **Pepper and Salt.**

### **Classification**

This experiment is suitable for Grades 4 – 6

### **Aim**

This experiment will show how the unseen force of static electricity can attract the lighter pepper, without attracting heavier salt.

### **What You Will Need**

1. Balloon
2. Woollen jumper (or hair)
3. Plate
4. Pepper
5. Salt

### **Safety**

1. Make sure you use safety glasses when conducting this experiment
2. Don't forget to get permission from an adult before doing this experiment

### **What To Do**

**Step 1.** Blow up the balloon.

**Step 2.** Add pepper and salt, combined, to the plate

**Step 3.** Rub the balloon rapidly against the woollen jumper for around 20 seconds.

**Step 4.** Hover the balloon over the plate and watch what happens.

### **Discoveries**

By rubbing the balloon against the woollen jumper, or hair, static electricity is created. Static is made up of positive and negative charges. The balloon produces static negative charges and when held over the salt and pepper, these charges push electrons into the salt and pepper, balancing with positive charges.

Positive and negative charges attract and so the pepper, being a lighter substance, will jump back to the balloon along with the positive charges so they can be nearer the negative charges.

### **Disclaimer**

Aurora Energy shall not be liable for any personal injury suffered or sustained as a consequence of following the directions of the experiment contained within this website, except to the extent it cannot be excluded by law.