Static Charges

- 1. Use the wool to charge the items in Kit #1.
- 2. Use tissue paper pieces to determine the charges.
- 3. Count the number of tissue paper pieces attracted to each item and record your findings in the appropriate blanks.
- 4. Wipe the charge from the rod with your hand and recharge the rod with your hair or animal fur.
- 5. Repeat steps 2 & 3.
- 6. Repeat all steps using your own hair or the animal fur.

items	wool hair or fur	
friction rod		
metal rod		
balloon		
comb		
iron nail		
wooden pencil		
pen		
plastic bag		
penny		
plastic spoon		
key		

- 1. Which items were best able to hold the static charge?
- 2. What did they have in common?
- 3. What did the items that wouldn't hold a charge have in common?
- 4. What conclusions about static electricity can you draw from your findings?

Next Lesson:

- 1. Charge the friction rod and investigate how the materials in Kit #2 react to it.
- 2. Record your findings in the appropriate boxes by counting the number of each identified item that was attracted to the charged rod. Since eraser crumbs and sawdust are difficult to count, note if there was a strong or weak attraction by writing "S" for strong or "W" for weak.
- 3. Repeat for each item until all have been tested.

	tissue paper	eraser crumbs	yarn	sawdust	paper dots	puffed rice
friction rod						

11.2.10