



Static Electricity: Student Activity Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part 2: Balloons and Cans

Use different cloths and rods to come up with your own demonstrations of movement between rods and the empty soda can. Each time you try to move the can, check for a charge of the rod. Record which cloth-and-rod combinations make the can move below. Also record whether the rod was charged.

Cloth-and-Rod Combination	Rod Charge

What are some general rules about charged and uncharged objects making things move?

Using the words attraction and repulsion, describe the different kinds of movement that you saw between charged objects. (The foil leaves moving apart in the charge detector are responding to repulsion.)

Guided Practice

1. A student said that if you charge two of the same kind of object by rubbing them with the same kind of cloth, the two objects will have the same charges and attract each other. What do you think about this statement? Support your answer with an example from class.

2. A student rubbed a cotton cloth on a plastic rod and an empty aluminum can. The can rolled toward the plastic rod when they were placed close together on a flat surface. You can conclude:

- A. The plastic rod and the can have the same charges.
- B. The plastic rod and the can have different charges.
- C. There are no static charges on either object.
- D. The aluminum is non-magnetic.