

DANCING GHOST

Are you ready to make a ghost dance? First, cut a ghost shape out of paper. Then, blow up your balloon and tie it off. Rub the balloon on the top of your head and slowly edge the balloon toward the paper ghost. Now you're able to make the ghost move in response to the balloon and even make it dance in the air!

Though it might seem like magic, the truth behind this phenomenon is science! When you rub a balloon on your hair, some of the electrons from your hair move over to the balloon, producing a charge of static electricity. The electrons have a negative charge. They are attracted to objects that have a positive electrical charge, like paper. Even though the static electricity is invisible, it is powerful enough to draw the paper toward it.

Because electrical forces decrease in strength with distance, the attraction between the negatives and positives is stronger than the repulsion between the negatives and negatives. This leads to an overall attraction. The paper is said to have an induced charge.

Note that when the paper and balloon come into direct contact, the charge is neutralized and paper falls down.

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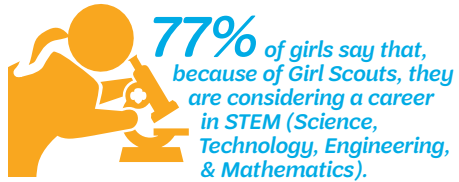
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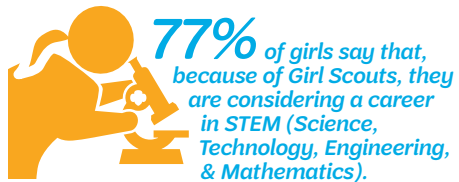




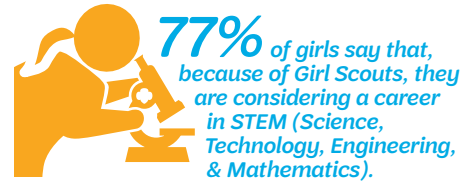
The learning pyramid shows that people retain about 5% of information by hearing about it, 10% by reading about it, 30% by seeing it, and 75% by doing it themselves. When kids get their hands on exciting activities, it can inspire them to learn.



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