

Static Electricity Science Activity

To begin you will need: a balloon, a foot of tissue paper or more, a small piece of cardboard (or even a heavier piece of junk mail will work), scissors, glue, coloring utensils (optional), and carpet or a fluffier blanket or sweater.

1

Make observations: Use sight, smell, touch, hearing, and taste. Inflate the balloon and tie off the end. Set aside. Color the butterfly body and then cut out. Set aside. Fold the tissue paper in half and cut out a wing shape, use the butterfly wing template to trace over if necessary. Glue the wings to the butterfly's body. Glue the butterfly's body to the piece of cardboard. Begin observations. **These are my observations:**

Need some support? Try using these prompts:

Does the balloon feel heavy or light. What does the balloon smell like? What does the butterfly's wings feel like?

2

Ask questions: Form questions about the experiment.
These are my questions:

Need some support? Try using these prompts:

How will the butterfly's wings move? What is the balloon for?

3

Form a hypothesis: Make predictions to the questions you asked. **This is my hypothesis (prediction or educated guess):**

Need some support? Try using these prompts:

What do you think will happen when we touch the balloon to the butterfly's wings? We'll use your answer as your hypothesis.

4

Test your hypothesis: It is time to begin your experiment!

Rub the balloon back and forth quickly on carpet or on a fuzzy blanket or sweater. Hold the balloon just above the wings of the butterfly and see if they move. If not, rub the balloon back and forth quickly on the material and try again. When the wings begin to lift, try moving the balloon up and down above the wings.

5

Record the results: You can take a picture, draw, or even videotape what happened. **I recorded my results by (or use the back of this paper to write or draw):**

Need some support? Try using these prompts:

Would you like me to record you making the butterfly's wings move?

6

Share the results: Use your recordings or simply talk with others. **I plan to share or (or have shared) my results by:**

Need some support? Try using these prompts:

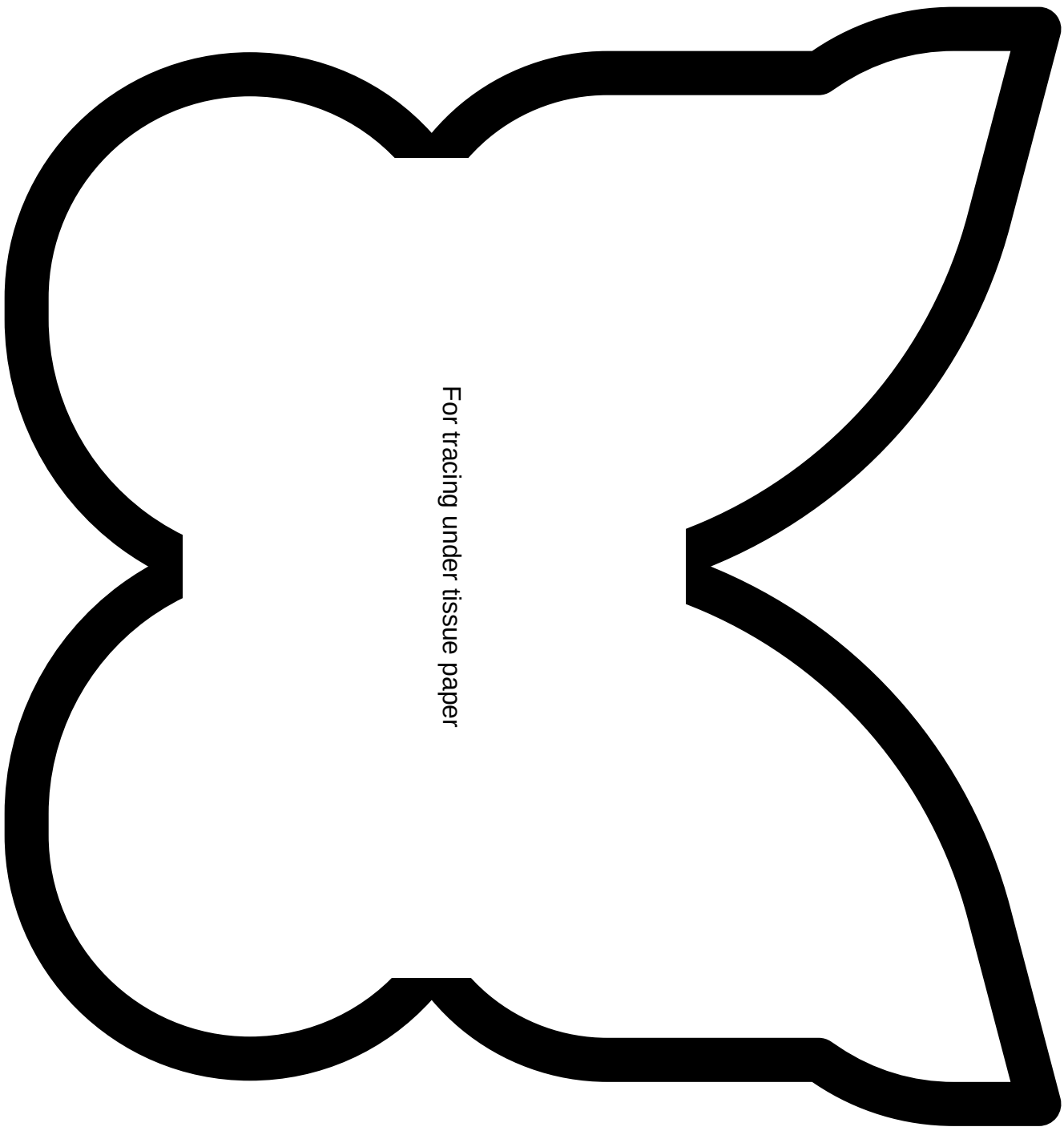
Why don't we show your video to sister? You can explain that you created static electricity by rubbing the balloon back and forth and that it makes the wings move!



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For tracing under tissue paper



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