

Be a snake charmer

Brief summary:

In this experiment you will charm a paper snake with a plastic ruler.

You will need:

- Help from an adult
- Plate
- Tissue paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Plastic ruler
- Woollen scarf

What to do:

Step 1. Put a plate on a piece of tissue paper and trace around the plate.

Step 2. Cut the circle out and draw a spiral inside the circle (it can be tricky to cut out the snake so ask for some adult help if you need). Decorate your spiral as a snake, drawing the eyes in the middle of the spiral.

Step 3. Cut out the spiral (it can be tricky to cut out the snake so ask for some adult help if you need).

Step 4. Rub a plastic ruler hard against a woollen scarf for 30 seconds and immediately touch the head of the snake with the ruler.

Step 5. Slowly raise your ruler and you should see your snake rise with your ruler and uncoil.

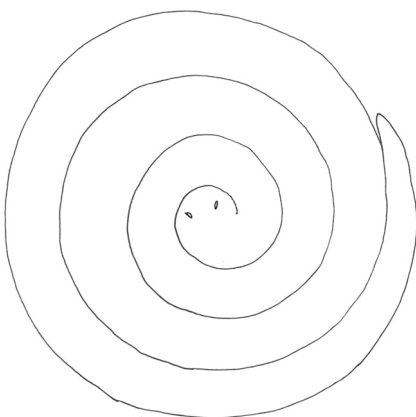
Take it further:

Can you repeat this experiment with other materials (e.g. cellophane or printing paper)?

Also have a look at our other static electricity experiments like *Static electricity can race*, *Bend water with static electricity* and *Light up the room with your hair!*

Big questions:

- Where does electricity come from?
- What do we use electricity for?



For more information on how you can help our environment, or to make some suggestions of your own, please go to www.coolaustralia.org