

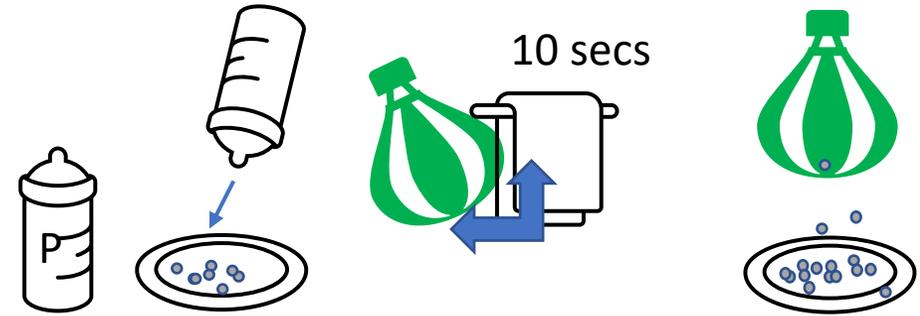
# Dancing pepper

## What you need:

- Synthetic cloth
- Plate
- Ground pepper
- Balloon

## What you do:

- Sprinkle some ground pepper onto a plate.
- Blow up balloon and tie off.
- Take the cloth and wipe the surface of the balloon vigorously but not too hard - you do not want to pop the balloon.
- Place the balloon over the plate with the pepper, you do not want to touch the balloon onto the pepper but bring it close to the grains.
- Watch and listen.



## The Science

**This experiment demonstrates static electricity. Static electricity is caused by an imbalance between negative and positive charges in an object. When the balloon is rubbed with the synthetic cloth there is a build-up on its surface of negative charges (electrons). The pepper is more positively charged than the surface of the balloon. Ground pepper is very light and when the ‘negatively’ charged balloon come near it the ‘positive’ pepper is attracted and jumps onto the balloon surface.**

