



MAGIC WAND

Cut a 4 cm long plastic soda-straw and insert a pin through its centre (Fig.1). Make a hole in an old rubber slipper and insert an empty ballpen refill in it (Fig.2). Rub the straw (Fig.1) with a piece of wool or a hair-band and then place the pin in the refill (Fig.3). Take a long soda-straw and rub it with wool or the hair-band (Fig.4). Now, as you bring the long straw near the small one, it turns (Fig.5).

Like a magic wand you can keep turning the little straw without ever touching it with the long straw. When the plastic straw is rubbed with wool, some electrons in the straw get knocked off and the straw acquires an electrical charge. When the two straws with the same electric charge are brought close together, they repel each other.