

DO TRY THIS AT HOME

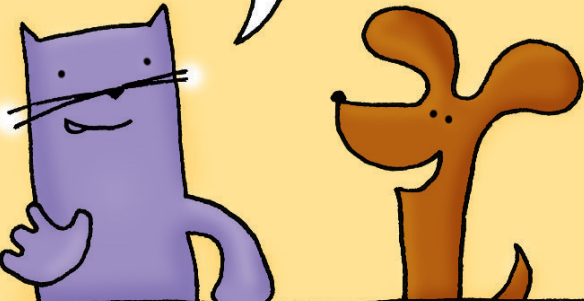
issue #145

Featuring: **Marvin and Milo**

What you need: • A plastic cup • A match
• A balloon • Two 1p coins



Hey Milo, can you move a finely-balanced match without touching it?



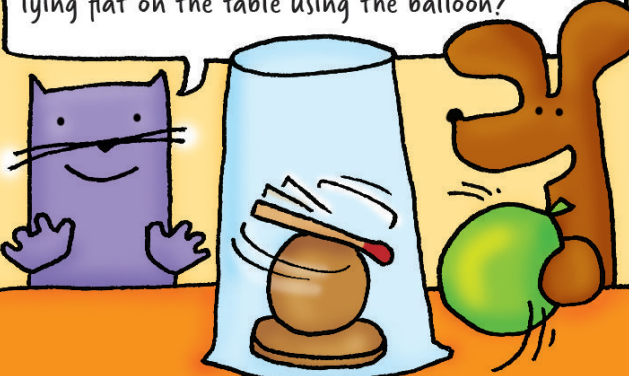
Lay one coin flat on a table and balance the other on it vertically. Balance the match on the rim of the upper coin...



... then place the cup over the whole set-up. Blow up and tie the balloon then rub it against your hair or jumper.



Move the balloon slowly round the cup, without touching it. The match moves as the balloon does! What happens if you try to move a match lying flat on the table using the balloon?



Rubbing the balloon transfers negatively charged electrons to it, repelling electrons in the match in a way that causes it to spin. Friction acts along the whole match when it's lying flat and stops it moving, but it can spin when it's resting on a point.

