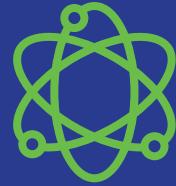


BENDING WATER



Did you know that everything around you is made of tiny bits of matter called atoms? When these atoms bond together, they create molecules. Even the water in your faucet is made of molecules! You may not be able to see them, but we can prove that they are there. Here's how!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Water Faucet
- Plastic Comb

WHAT YOU'LL DO:

1. Slowly turn on the water faucet until you see a thin, steady stream of water coming out.

2. Take a plastic comb and run it through your hair several times. This builds a static charge on the comb, which means that you have collected tiny particles called electrons from your hair. (Tip: The more times you run the comb through your hair, the greater the charge will be and the more effective your experiment will be.)



3. Hold the charged comb next to the stream of water. What happens? You should see the water bend toward the comb.

Optional:

- Just for fun, try running a balloon (instead of a plastic comb) through your hair a few times to generate static and then hold it next to the stream of water. See what works best for you!

Why this happened:

- Water molecules are polar, which means they have a positive side and a negative side (just like a magnet). When left alone, the water moves normally.
- However, because you added all those extra electrons from your hair, the comb became negatively charged, which then attracted the positive side of the water molecules.



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