

# Electrical Forces & Static Electricity

In 600 B.C. the Greek philosopher Thales of Meletus discovered that a solid yellow material from dead trees, called amber, would attract feathers if first rubbed with fur.



Amber Attracts Feathers

The Greek word for amber is "elektron".

Forces caused by the build up of electrons are called electrical forces.

A force is a push or a pull on an object.

Is a pushing or pulling force acting on the object?



The build up of electrical charges on objects is called static electricity.



The name "static" comes from the Greek word meaning "standing" or "to stay".

Static electricity passes from one object to another as sudden, quick jumps. We call this a "shock".

Static electricity works best when the weather is cool and dry, since moisture does not allow electricity to build up.

No one knows exactly what static electricity is and all the reasons why charged objects behave the way they do.



# Bill Nye - Static Electricity

<http://video.google.ca/videosearch?q=bill+nye+static+electricity&hl=en&emb=0&aq=f#>