

Hairdryer Hover Challenge: Which Materials Float?

Do all materials float with air? We have made the world's largest hairdryer but which materials will it keep in the air? In this experiment, you will use the hairdryer to test different materials and find out which ones stay in the air the longest.

Things you need:

- A hairdryer
- Different materials to test (e.g. tissue paper, cotton wool, a ping pong ball, a feather and aluminium foil)
- A table or flat surface
- Stopwatch

Method:

1. Carefully hold the hairdryer with the airflow pointing upwards. (ask an adult to hold it for you)
2. Turn the hairdryer on to the coolest setting (use the same setting each time.)
3. Hold one material above the airflow and let go carefully.
4. Use your stopwatch to time how long the material stays in the air.
5. Record your results on your results sheet.
6. Repeat the test with each material.

Fair test:

How will you make this a fair test?



Hairdryer Hover Challenge: Which Materials Float?



Results:

Material	Predict Will it float?	Did it float?	Test 1 (seconds)	Test 2 (seconds)	Test 3 (seconds)



Conclusion:

Why do you think some materials floated better than others?

