



## Static Electricity Lessons

### Websites

#### [Static Electricity Misconceptions](#)

This site provides background information on students' prior ideas and misconceptions about static electricity.

( <http://www.amasci.com/emotor/stmiskon.html> )

#### [Lightening](#)

A wonderfully illustrated article that explains the processes associated with lightning.

( <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/lightning/> )

#### [Kids Lightning Information and Safety](#)

This web site, drafted by a student, shares information about lightning and how to keep safe when lightening is present.

( <http://www.kidslightning.info/zaphome.htm> )

#### [How Lighting Works](#)

This site includes a detailed article that explains the science behind lightening.

( <http://science.howstuffworks.com/lightning.htm> )

#### [What is St. Elmo's Fire?](#)

Describes how a phenomena known as St. Elmo's fire is the result of dangerous electric fields that develop during electrical storms.

( <http://www.madsci.org/posts/archives/aug97/871742132.Ph.r.html> )

#### [The Weather Doctor: The Fire of St. Elmo](#)

Outlines the scientific explanation of St. Elmo's Fire and describes the historical effect of this phenomenon.

( <http://www.islandnet.com/~see/weather/elements/stelmo.htm> )

#### [Electricity's Spark of Life](#)

A terrific site for both students and teachers about electricity.

( <http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/articles/20031001/Feature1.asp> )



### **Neuroscience for Kids**

This page describes how neurons work by sending messages electrochemically.  
( <http://staff.washington.edu/chudler/ap.html> )

### **Shark's Electric Sense**

An article that explains how sharks use electric signals to help them hunt.  
( <http://www.theallineed.com/ecology/06021705.htm> )

### **Materials that cause Static Electricity**

Learn about materials that cause or create more static electricity than others.  
( [http://www.school-for-champions.com/science/static\\_materials.htm](http://www.school-for-champions.com/science/static_materials.htm) )

### **Triboelectric Series**

This site provides additional information on the Triboelectric Series of materials that causes static electricity.  
( <http://www.ece.rochester.edu/~jones/demos/triboseries.html> )

## **Benjamin Franklin**

### **Electrified Ben**

Engaging account about Benjamin Franklin's interest in electricity.  
( <http://www.fi.edu/franklin/scientst/electric.html> )

### **Inventor: Benjamin Franklin**

A list of Benjamin Franklin's inventions reveals a man of many talents and interests.  
( <http://www.fi.edu/franklin/inventor/inventor.html> )



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### Books

#### **Benjamin Franklin and Electricity (Cornerstones of Freedom)**

Gail Blasser Riley. (2004, Scholastic Children's Press)

This biography covers Benjamin Franklin's accomplishments through his entire life, including his signature on the Declaration of Independence, but it also provides good coverage of his scientific experiments and inventions relevant to electricity.

#### **Electricity (DK Eyewitness Books)**

Steve Parker and Laura Buller. (2005, DK Children)

With the photographs and other illustrations that make the Eyewitness Science series stand out, this book provides a comprehensive overview of electricity. It begins with early ideas and discoveries, and includes the many ways electric charges are collected and used.

#### **Electricity (Science Around Us)**

Darlene R. Stille. (2004, The Child's World, Incorporated)

This book gives an overview of electricity, including how it was discovered and how batteries are made. It includes a brief biography of Benjamin Franklin.

#### **Electricity (Straightforward Science)**

Peter Riley. (1999, Franklin Watts)

This book explains simple circuits, generating electricity, and motors, and their uses in everyday life. It also includes experiments to show how electricity works.

#### **Electricity: A Question and Answer Book**

Adele Richardson and Phillip W. Hammer. (2007, Capstone Press)

Written for ages 8 to 12, this book introduces electricity and its generation, components, movement, and function. Its question-and-answer format makes it a useful reference for the Science Center.



### **How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning**

Rosalyn Schanzer. (2002, HarperCollins Publishers)

This picture-book biography describes Benjamin Franklin's various inventions and scientific experiments, culminating in his capture of lightning's electric power. Endpapers show some of Franklin's original drawings of electrical experiments.

### **Who Was Benjamin Franklin?**

Dennis Brindell Fradin; illustrated by John O'Brien. (2002, Grosset & Dunlap)

Written for grades 3 to 5, this book introduces all of the important contributions and inventions Benjamin Franklin gave the world, including the lightning rod and his experiments with electricity.