

Stick To Reading

Reading is absolutely awesome so be sure not to use your favourite book but this experiment is the perfect way to see the magical power of friction!

What do I need:

- 2 books that are roughly the same size! (They don't have to be exactly the same!)

How do I do it?

STEP 1 - Open up your two books next to each other and open one page of each book out on top of the other.

WARNING: Don't use your favourite books for this experiment as it will damage them.

STEP 2 - Continue to interlace the pages of your two books until they are completely intertwined.

STEP 3 - Wedge your books nice and closely together and then...try and pull them apart!

STEP 4 - Get someone big and strong and see if they have any luck!

What's going on?

Not only is this experiment a great way to remind children of how important reading is but it's also an incredible demonstration of just how powerful friction can be!

There's a little bit of friction between each of the pages but it's the cumulative effect of all those bits of friction added together that makes it so tricky to pull the books apart.

Another way to think about it is to think how big the total contact area between all of those pages would be. That's why it's so hard to pull your books apart!

More Fun Please - Experiment like a real scientist!

- What kind of books does this experiment work best with? [Remember, don't use your favourite books as this will damage them!]
- Could you try it with magazines, with newspapers, does that make a difference?
- Oh, just remember, no doing this with your homework and using it as an excuse!

