

Have a go at learning more about the discoveries of Albert Einstein through these fun experiments.

Bending Light

Albert Einstein was the first scientist to put forward the notion that light was both a wave and a particle. Build your understanding of some of the curious ways light behaves with this experiment.

You'll need:

- A glass half full of water
- A straw

Put the straw in the water and look at the straw from the top, bottom and the side, focusing especially on where the straw enters the water. Do you see anything strange? You should be able to see how light bends, or refracts, when it passes through gases and liquids.

Bending Water

Get hands-on experience with this physical application of Einstein's electrical mobility equation as you watch static electricity move things around.

You will need:

- A nylon comb

Turn the tap on so a small amount of water is flowing. Then comb your hair several times and bring the comb slowly towards the water, about four inches below the tap. Watch what happens when it gets within about an inch of the water!

The water should bend out towards the comb. Adjust the variables of your experiment to see how it changes by combing your hair more or changing the amount of water.

This experiment works by giving the comb an electrical charge. These charges then attract the water, bending the water towards the comb.