

# ▷ suction cup sticks

## What is Needed

A suction cup  
A table knife

## What to Do

Press a suction cup firmly against a smooth surface like a tabletop.  
Try to lift it up.  
Remember,  
the only thing holding the cup to the table is "light" air.  
Can't you exert a force equal to that of the air?

## What is Happening

Now,  
slip a knife under one side of the suction cup.  
What happens?

Our "light" air is "heavy" enough to hold the suction cup to the table top.  
When you slip the knife blade  
under one side of the suction cup,  
air rushes in to make the atmospheric pressure the same on both sides of the cup.  
Now you can pick up the cup  
with ease-dramatic proof of the "push" exerted by air.

