

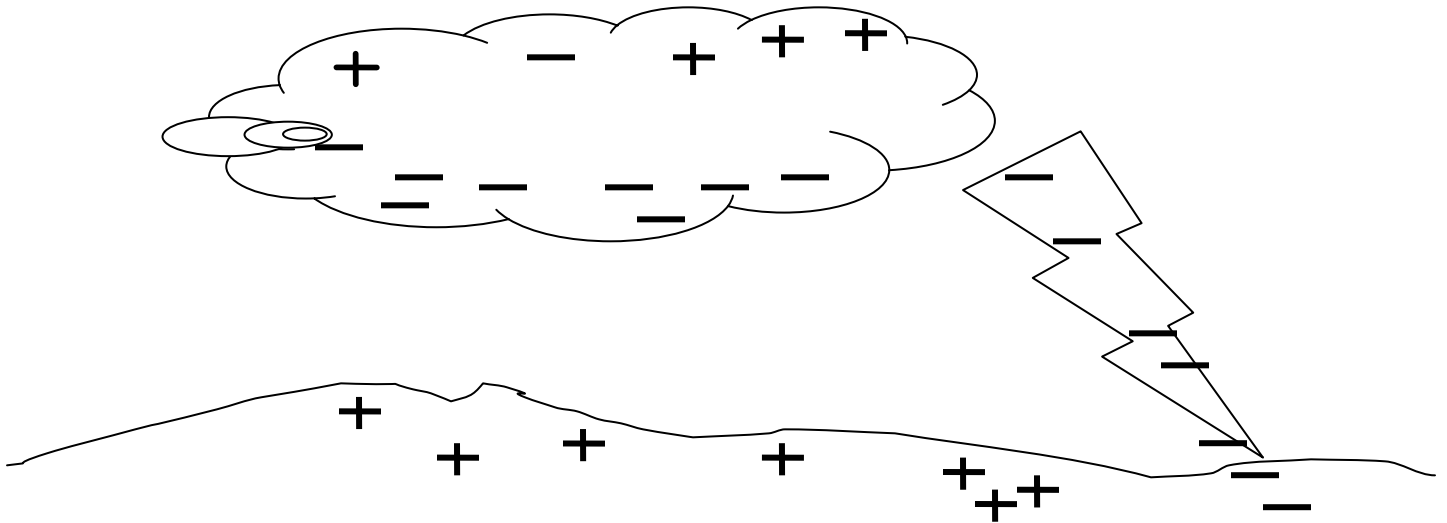
## Electric Discharge

Electric Discharge is the rapid transfer of electric charge from one object to another.

This happens when 2 objects are close to each other and there is a charge imbalance.

A charge imbalance describes a situation in which the 2 objects do NOT have the same charge.

Electrons move to balance the charges. (make them equal). Electrons move from an area of more -ve charge to an area of less -ve charge.



Do you notice the negative charge on bottom of cloud?

Do you notice the ground is positively charged?

Electrons move to balance out the charge difference between ground and cloud. (moving from an area of high -ve charge in the cloud to an area of low negative charge on the ground).

The discharge happens quickly! Sometimes its a small charge from a doorknob (ouch! small shock).

But if you get hit by lightning, it can be deadly!!

Did you know? The charge on the cloud happens because particles of water moisture are whirling around and get charge by friction!