

# Dotty demonstration

## You will need:

A balloon (a red one would be ideal)  
Some toilet tissue  
Water  
An audience :O)



This demonstration will help you show your audience how some fungi get their spots.

The fruiting body (the cap) of a fungus expands like a balloon as it grows.

Fungi are protected by a layer called the 'universal veil'. In this demonstration the balloon is the fruiting body and the toilet tissue is the universal veil.

## What to do:

Wrap a deflated balloon in toilet tissue.

Sprinkle a few small drops of water onto the top of the toilet tissue.

Begin to inflate the balloon.

Keep holding the bottom of the toilet tissue and let the balloon get bigger and rupture it.

Be careful not to overinflate the balloon as it might go with a bang!

Send us your stories and suggestions to:

**naturedetectives@woodlandtrust.org.uk**



Start your own adventure at [naturedetectives.org.uk](http://naturedetectives.org.uk)

Fun stuff for kids, families and schools by the Woodland Trust, a charity registered in England & Wales (294344) and Scotland (SC038885) at Kempton Way, Grantham, NG31 6LL  
© 2011 You may print and copy this sheet, in its entirety, for non-commercial purposes. Do not put this pdf on other websites - please link to our download page. Questions? 0800 026 9650