



Magnetic Mayhem

Get ready to have some fun with magnets!

Materials Needed:

- Magnets
- Magnetic and Non-Magnetic Materials (Examples: paper clips, keys, coins, pipe cleaners, silverware, plastic, rubber bands, eraser, etc.)

Procedure:

1. Ask your student/child to predict which materials the magnet will stick to and which materials the magnets will not stick to. Have them write these down!
2. Test each object. Have you student/child write down which objects were magnetic and which ones were not.
3. Ask them if their predictions were right. Did any surprise you?
4. Bonus! Have you student/child go around your house and/or outside with their magnet. Test to see if any objects such as washing machines or sinks are magnetic.

The Science Behind It:

Objects that are magnetic generally have a type of metal called iron in them. The molecules in magnets are arranged in such a way that their elections all spin in the same direction. The way the molecules are arranged creates a north and south pole in magnets. A magnetic force flows from the north pole to the south pole which creates a magnetic field that surrounds the magnet. The north and south poles are attracted to each other, but if you put two north poles or two south poles together, they will repel each other.