

Grade: 2

Topic: Physical Science

Title: *What Can Magnets Do?*

Objective:

The learner will demonstrate how magnets may be used to push or pull other objects.

Standards:

2.3.8 Demonstrate and observe that magnets can be used to make some things move without being touched.

Materials:

2 bar magnets
2 clear plastic cups
Small metal paper clips
Small classroom objects (magnetic and nonmagnetic)
Water to fill $\frac{1}{4}$ of the cup
Paper square 3" x 3"

Activity:

1. Push the magnets together. Record what happens each time. Switch ends of one of the magnets. Try it again.
2. Predict which objects the magnets will pull. Record their predictions on the chart.
3. Try to pull each object using the magnet. Record what happens.
4. Try to pull a paper clip through things. For example, put some water in a cup and try to pull the paper clip out of the water without directly touching the magnet to the paper clip.
5. Allow students time to try other ways of pulling the paper clip around the room.
6. Have students share their findings.
7. Challenge: Attempt to use a magnet to pull objects through a piece of foil.

Conclusion:

Gather as a class to review the completed charts describing the materials that a magnet can pull through.

Source: Lesson plan is adapted from *Scott Foresman Science, Grade 2; Teacher's Edition*, Vol. 2, 2006; Pearson Education Inc.

Rubric taken from *Scott Foresman Science, Grade 2; Teacher's Guide Activity*