

LET'S EXPLORE WITH MAGNETS...

THINGS YOU COULD EXPLORE...



How many magnetic things can you find?

- How could you put them into groups?
- Do you notice any patterns?

Can you use your magnet to move things?

- How far can you get them to go?
- What do you think would make them stop moving?

How long does the magnet stay attracted to something magnetic (like a metal fence post)?

- Does it stay attracted for the whole of break or lunch time?

What games can you invent to play with your magnets?

- Could you borrow some string, find a stick and go 'fishing'?
- Could you bury objects under some leaves and find out which ones are magnetic?

IN YOUR BAG you should find



- a selection of different sized and shaped magnets
- If these are missing, please tell your teacher.

WHAT CAN YOU THINK OF?



- What ideas do you have for exploring using the magnets?
- What questions about the world around you would a magnet help you to answer?

TOP TIPS...



- If something is attracted to your magnet, that means it's magnetic.

LET'S WORK SCIENTIFICALLY...



Here is an investigation you could do with magnets. For this investigation you will need at least two different sized magnets.

1. Find a magnetic object. A metal fence post would work well.
2. Choose one of the magnets.
3. Place a piece of paper or a leaf between the magnet and the magnetic object. Is the magnet still attracted to the object?
What about if you use two pieces of paper or two leaves?
4. Keep placing more pieces of paper or leaves between the magnet and magnetic object until the magnet is not attracted to the object any more.
How many pieces of paper or leaves did you use?
5. Repeat the above process with a different magnet. If you have more than two magnets, you could test these as well.
6. Can you identify any patterns? Does the size of the magnet make any difference to how many pieces of paper or leaves you can put in between the magnet and the object? What about the shape of the magnet – does this make any difference?

Well done! You have just carried out a pattern seeking enquiry.

RESEARCH

You could use the internet or non-fiction books to explore:



- How magnets are used in our everyday lives.
- How electromagnets work and what they are used for.