

Magnets Unit Teacher Masters: Table of Contents

Introductory Letter to Families

Welcome to the Magnets Unit.....	1
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Teacher Masters

Scavenger Hunt Predictions (Lesson 2)	2
My Magnet Design (Lesson 6)	3

Family Links

Magnetic Scavenger Hunt (Lesson 2)	4
Searching for Magnets in My Home (Lesson 6)	5

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Dear Families,

Our class is beginning the Science Companion[®] Magnets Unit. The Magnets Unit builds on the natural curiosity children have about magnets and encourages them to actively explore the forces associated with magnets.

During the Magnets Unit, the children will:

- Discover that magnets cause a push or pull (a force) on different materials and other magnets.
- Classify objects as either magnetic or non-magnetic.
- Consider what magnetic objects have in common.
- Investigate whether the force of magnets work through air, water and various materials.
- Plan and conduct a simple investigation to test the strength of different magnets.
- Observe the repelling force of magnets.
- Notice the different ways magnets are used everyday.

In addition to the work your child will do in class, you and your child can explore this rich topic together at home in the following ways:

- Visit the library and search for books about magnets to read together and share with the class. There are book suggestions on the Science Companion web site. This web site also features a list of recommended web sites about magnets. The address is:
www.ScienceCompanion.com/Links
- Work together on the Family Link activities that are sent home from time to time. Your child may also want to repeat and vary some of the activities we do in class, as well as explain what they discovered and learned. Try to encourage their independent experimentation at home.

Thinking and learning about the pulling and pushing forces of magnets is fascinating for children and adults. We hope you will share some of your child's enthusiasm, thereby learning with them while helping them explore.

Sincerely,

Name: _____ Date: _____

Scavenger Hunt Predictions

Object in Classroom	Predictions	Observations
Draw, or describe, the objects you are going to test with the magnet.	Do you think the object and magnet will be pulled toward one another? (circle one)	Were the object and the magnet pulled toward one another? (circle one)
	Yes No	Yes No
	Yes No	Yes No
	Yes No	Yes No
	Yes No	Yes No
	Yes No	Yes No
	Yes No	Yes No
	Yes No	Yes No

Name: _____ Date: _____

My Magnet Design

Think about something you can design that uses magnets. Draw a picture of your design. You can use the space below, the back of this sheet or another sheet of paper if you like.

Describe how magnets are used in your design.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Family Link with Science—Homework

Magnetic Scavenger Hunt

In science class today, children learned that magnetic objects are those objects that are attracted (or pulled) to magnets. (They also learned that it is very important to keep magnets away from electronic equipment and the magnetic strips on the backs of cards, such as credit cards, to prevent damaging them.)

Ask your child to use a refrigerator magnet to identify at least 10 magnetic objects in your house.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Please complete this assignment for science class.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Family Link with Science—Homework

Searching for Magnets in My Home

Tell your family about some of the useful ways magnets are used everyday. Then, look for examples of how magnets are used in your home. Write down some of the examples you see. Include drawings if you'd like.

Please complete this assignment for science class.