# Does it Stick?

**What is the challenge?** Discover what materials are magnetic and what materials are not by testing.

## What you need:

- Magnets
- Objects that are magnetic:
  - Steel wool
  - Paper clips
  - Paper fasteners (brads)
  - Scissors
- Objects that are not magnetic:
  - Paper
  - Cotton
  - Markers
  - Plastic objects

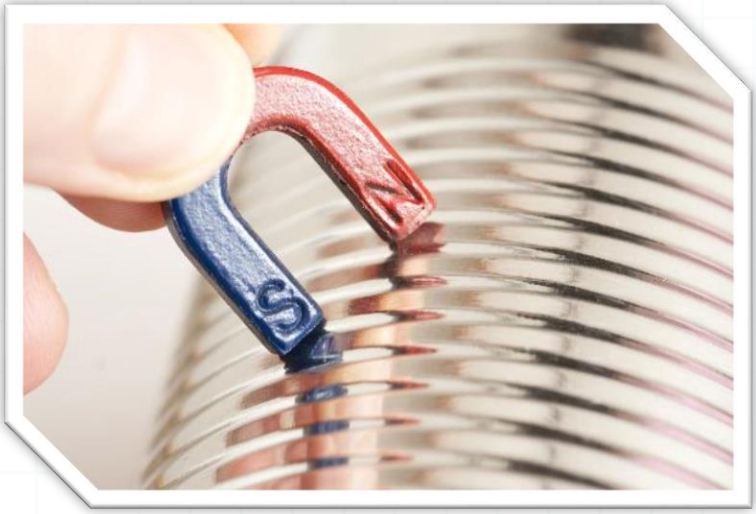



Image by sciencestockphotos.com

## What to do:

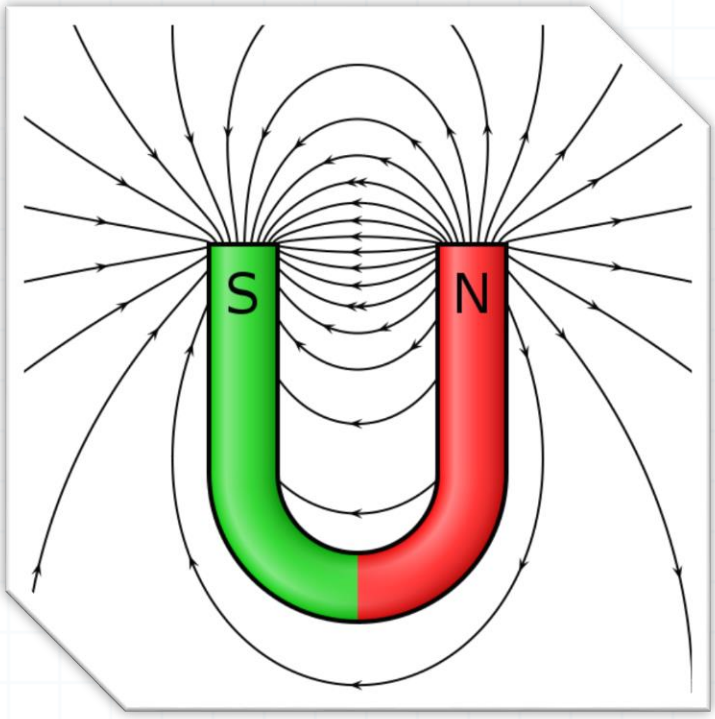
- Test the magnets to see which magnets attract and which ones repel each other.
- Test the magnets on the different objects.
- Why do some objects stick to the magnet and some do not?
- **Safety note:** Be careful not to place magnets near electronics!

## Notes for adults:

- Encourage your learners to be creative in what items they may want to test the magnet with.

## STEM connection:

- Magnets are objects that produce magnetic fields and attract metals like iron, nickel and cobalt. Not everything or every metal is magnetic.
- Magnets have a north and a south pole. when two of the same pole of magnets are pushed together, for example two north poles, they repel each other. When two opposite poles are brought close they will attract to each other, for example, a north and a south pole.

## Take it further:

- Try making your scissors into a temporary magnet!
- Take a strong magnet and drag the north side down the length of the scissors. Pick up your magnet and repeat this, always dragging in the same, direction ten times.
- Use the tip of the magnetized scissors to pick up a paperclip.