Magnetism 3



Where do magnets come from?

 Magnets are found naturally in a mineral called magnetite (a type of iron).



- There are two stories of how the first magnets were discovered:
 - One comes from the rocky hills of Ancient Greece—unusual black rocks would stick to each other and on the metal-tipped ends of shepherds' walking sticks.
 - Another comes from China—the people were said to carve magnetite to rock back and forth; they would turn and spin, but then always rest pointed in the same direction.



- Magnetism is the invisible force produced by certain objects. The force attracts items made of iron, nickel, and cobalt.
- Magnets have a magnetic field (invisible lines of force around a magnet) that attract or repel certain materials.

These lines show the magnetic field.



Magnetic Fields



- There are many kinds of magnets, but...
- ...ALL magnets have two *poles* or ends labeled north and south poles. At the poles of a magnet, the magnetic field lines are closer together... so this is where the magnet is STRONGEST.

The magnetic field lines around horseshoe and disk magnets are closest together at the magnets' poles.



Like... repel Opposites...attract (Haven't we heard this before??) • •

- Just like we learned in electricity, opposite poles attract and like poles repel.
- A magnet's N pole will attract another magnet's S pole (and vice versa).
- A magnet's N pole will repel another magnet's N pole (and vice versa).
- Let's try it! ③



One BIG magnet!



- The earth is a giant magnet!
- The nickel-iron core of the earth gives the earth a magnetic field much like a bar magnet.
- This is why compasses work!





- The first compasses were made from magnetite and were used on ships to help guide them across the oceans.
- The magnetite is attracted to the north pole (really the south pole) of the earth. (See picture...)
- Therefore, the magnetic needle will always spin to face N, and you just adjust your compass to find out your current direction.
- Let's try it! ③



- Magnets and electricity are closely related.
- Magnets get their force from electric charges (electrons) moving in the magnet.
- This week, and next week, we will explore magnets further! ③

Magnets are EVERYWHERE!

- If you have ever used a computer, phone, microwave oven, copy machine, or refrigerator, then you have used magnets!
- All these items, and many more, use magnets everyday to function and work.
- Did you know? Acrophobia at Six Flags over Georgia uses powerful magnets to slow the ride to a stop! How natural! ^(C)



What do magnets attract?

 We are going to try out some different materials to see what items are magnetic... and record our findings!





- The magnets that we used today are *permanent* magnets (magnets that keep their magnetic force at all times).
- However, we can also make temporary magnets (magnets that only have a magnetic force after being around another magnet).

Let's try it! ③

Why does this work?

- Certain items can be magnetized because of the magnetic domains located inside each of the items. (These domains are typically composed of billions of atoms.)
- Magnetic substances like iron, cobalt, and nickel are composed of small areas (domains) where the groups of atoms are aligned like the poles of a magnet.
- All of the domains of a magnetic substance tend to align themselves in the same direction when placed in a magnetic field...making a temporary magnet.

Magnetic Domains



A normal iron nail is made up of billions of domains that are arranged randomly. B The domains will align themselves along the magnetic field lines of a nearby magnet.

(If you drop the nail, though, then its domains will get all jumbled up again.)

Electricity and Magnetism - how are they related?





When an electric current passes through a wire, a magnetic field is formed around that wire.



When electric current flows through a wire, a magnetic field forms around the wire. The direction of the magnetic field depends on the direction of the current in the wire.

Electromagnets (p.96)

9 0

- When an electric current is passed through a coil of wire wrapped around a metal core, a very strong magnetic field is produced. This is called an electromagnet.
- Electromagnets use electricity to generate magnetic fields around magnetic materials.
- Let's try it! ③



An iron core inserted into the coil becomes a magnet.

How useful! (p.97)

- Electromagnets are very useful, because the magnetism can be "turned off" at will!
- Once the electric current stops flowing through the wire, the magnetism ceases.
- Electromagnets are used in scrap yards to lift and drop huge metal items.



Compare and Contrast



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