

Magnets and magnetism

energy-forces

What you need: bar magnet or fridge magnet (pair expected to differ in strength) · sticky labels or coloured sticky dots (magnet labels A/B) · steel paperclips · mixed test objects (steel nail or screw, aluminium foil square, plastic bottle lid, wooden lolly stick or pencil, rubber eraser, short copper wire, small piece of card) · plain paper sheets (for through-paper strength measure if only one magnet is available)

Words to use

Magnet · Magnetic · Non-magnetic · Magnet strength

Our question

Which materials are magnetic, and which magnet is strongest?

I predict...because...

Test 1 – sort each object we tested

Material	Magnetic or non-magnetic?

Test 2 – our fair test

We change only the magnet. We keep the same: the paperclips, how we start the chain, and how we count.

Paperclips held in the chain (count only those still hanging)

Magnet	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Middle value
Magnet A				
Magnet B				

Which magnet was strongest, and how do you know?

Which looked like metal but were non-magnetic?