

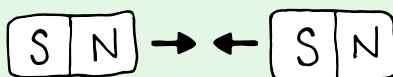
MARVELLOUS MAGNETS



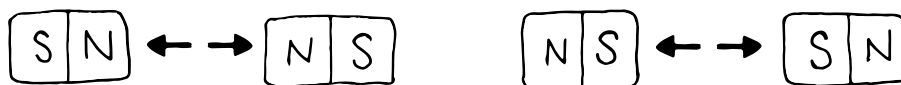
1 Magnetism is an invisible force – although you can see its effect in action sometimes (see points 3, 4 and 5)

2 Every magnet has a north (N) pole and a south (S) pole

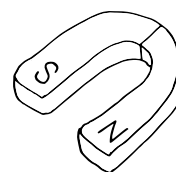
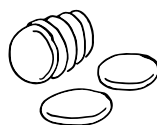
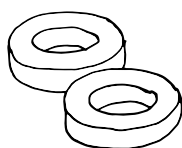
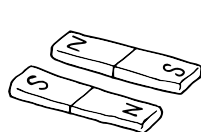
3 The opposite poles of different magnets (or magnetic fields - see point 5) will attract each other and pull together



4 The same poles of different magnets (or magnetic fields) will repel each other and pull apart



5 A magnet will only attract or repel another object when that object enters its magnetic field - the area where it's possible to feel the magnetic force (see Did you know?)

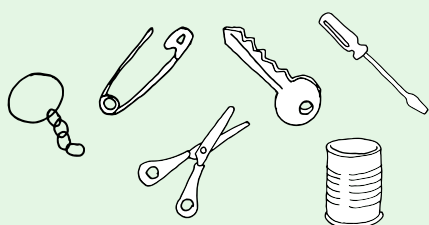


Magnets

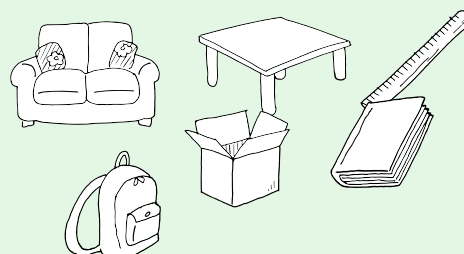
Horseshoe magnet

Objects are either attracted to a magnet or not. If something is attracted, we say it's magnetic - and most (but not all!) metals are magnetic.

MAGNETIC

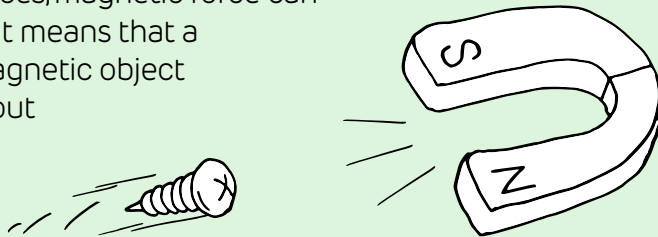


NOT MAGNETIC



DID YOU KNOW?

Unlike most other forces, magnetic force can act at a distance! That means that a magnet can pull a magnetic object along a surface without touching the object.



This is Drax Power Station, near Selby in North Yorkshire. We use giant magnets to make enough electricity to power six million homes! The magnet is found inside the generator, which generates electricity. There's one magnet inside each generator, and the power station has six generators.

We have a magnet that's 15 metres long and weighs 82 tonnes (as heavy as 82 small cars) that spins 50 times a second!