

TABLE 1

Magnet stations.

Purpose	Magnet Station Materials	Guiding Question
To explore the materials that magnets will attract	Circle magnets, variety of materials	Can you pick it up with a magnet?
To explore how magnetic force is affected through other substances	Circle magnets, paper clips, fabric, felt, paper plates, bins of water, plastic wrap, paper, other materials to test the magnetic force through	Does magnetic force still work through other substances?
To explore the strength of magnets	Different size and shape magnets, paper clips	Does the size of a magnet determine its strength?
To explore how magnetic force affects objects without touching them	Bar magnets on strings, paper clips on strings, circle magnets, wand magnets, toy cars, iron filings	How can the magnets make the objects move without touching them?

TABLE 2

Magnet claims and evidence.

Claim	Supporting Evidence
Magnets pick up some kinds of metals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only metal materials were attracted to magnets • Paper clips, some nails, and staples were attracted to the magnets. • Other materials like paper, cloth, and cardboard are not attracted to magnets. • Some metal objects, like brass fasteners, aluminum foil, and some nails were not attracted to magnets.
Magnetic force will still work through other substances, although the distance and type of substance may decrease its strength.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magnets attracted metal objects through the table. • Magnets could still pick up metal objects even when placed in a container or water. • Magnets attracted metal objects through my shirt. • Magnets picked up metal objects through paper, but with a larger stack of paper, it was harder to keep the objects sticking to the magnet.
The size of a magnet does not determine how strong it is.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some small magnets picked up more paper clips than the bigger ones. • The “snake egg” magnets were small but harder to pull apart than some of the large magnets.
Magnetic force can attract or repel other metal or magnetic objects and can cause objects to move without touching them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When two magnets were hanging from strings near each other without touching, they would begin to spin. • When the same ends of two magnets were placed near each other they would repel and push away from each other, but when the opposite ends were placed near each other, they would attract. • The toy car could move forward or backward without touching it depending on which end of the magnet was pointed toward the car.