Magnetism

Amarion Chrismon

Brief: Amarion’s article was inspired by a lesson on magnetism in the science lab and a wide selection of research materials available in the library.

Magnets can either attract or repel other magnetic objects. When magnets attract they pull objects closer. When magnets repel they push objects away. Magnets have an invisible

A magnet can attract certain metals, but magnetic powers don’t work all of the time. You see not everything is attracted to magnets. You could try all day to stick a magnet to a tree but it just won’t work. Because wood is not magnetic. There are many other examples of non-magnetic materials. Glass, plastic, rubber, silver, and titanium are examples. They do nothing for magnets. Only certain metals like iron and nickel are magnetic. Magnets and magnetic materials stick together through thick and thin!
A magnet has two sides: positive and negative. They are also called the North pole and South pole. For example, a bar magnet has a pole on each end. A horseshoe magnet has a pole on each tip. If you cut a magnet in half, each separate piece still has two poles. Opposite poles are attracted to each other. The North pole of one magnet pulls on the South pole of another magnet. Poles that are alike repel each other by pushing each other away! It can be nearly impossible to make two like poles touch each other.

Acknowledgements: Amarion would like to thank his teacher, Mr. Foster; his scientist, Dr. Benoist; and his new friend and mentor, Dr. Bryan Kent Wallace, director of the physics laboratories and primary investigator for Fisk Altitude Achievement Missile Team (F.A.A.M.T) at Fisk University.

About the Author: Amarion is a fourth-grade student at Hattie-Cotton STEM-Magnet Elementary School. Amarion would like to study engineering in college.