Spot On Science & Technology

Magnets on the Move

by Courtney Silk

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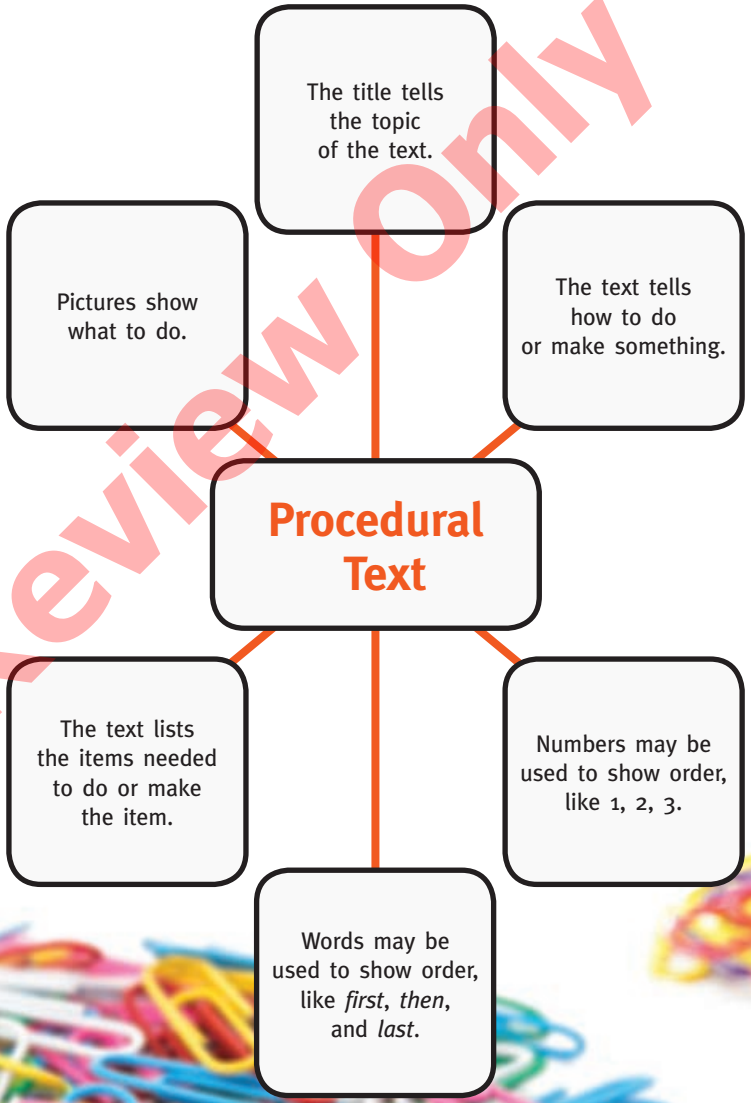

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CHAPTER 1

What Are Magnets?

Magnets are made of metal.

They have different shapes, and they can have different sizes, too.

Magnets have force.

Force is a push or pull.

Magnets can make things move.

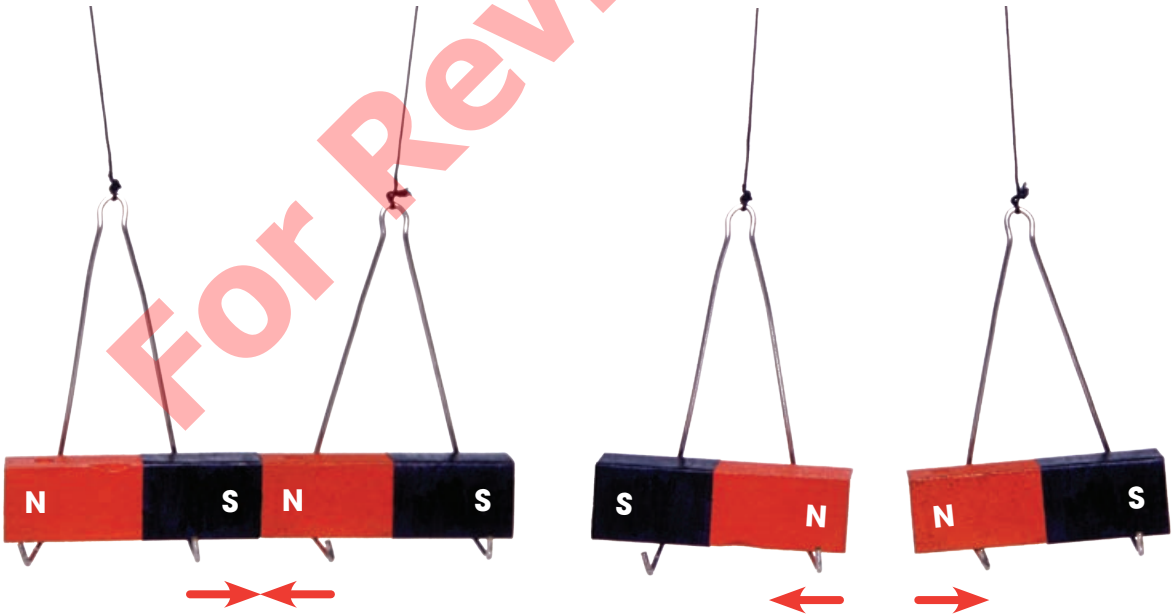
CHAPTER 2

How Do Magnets Work?

Magnets have two poles, or ends.

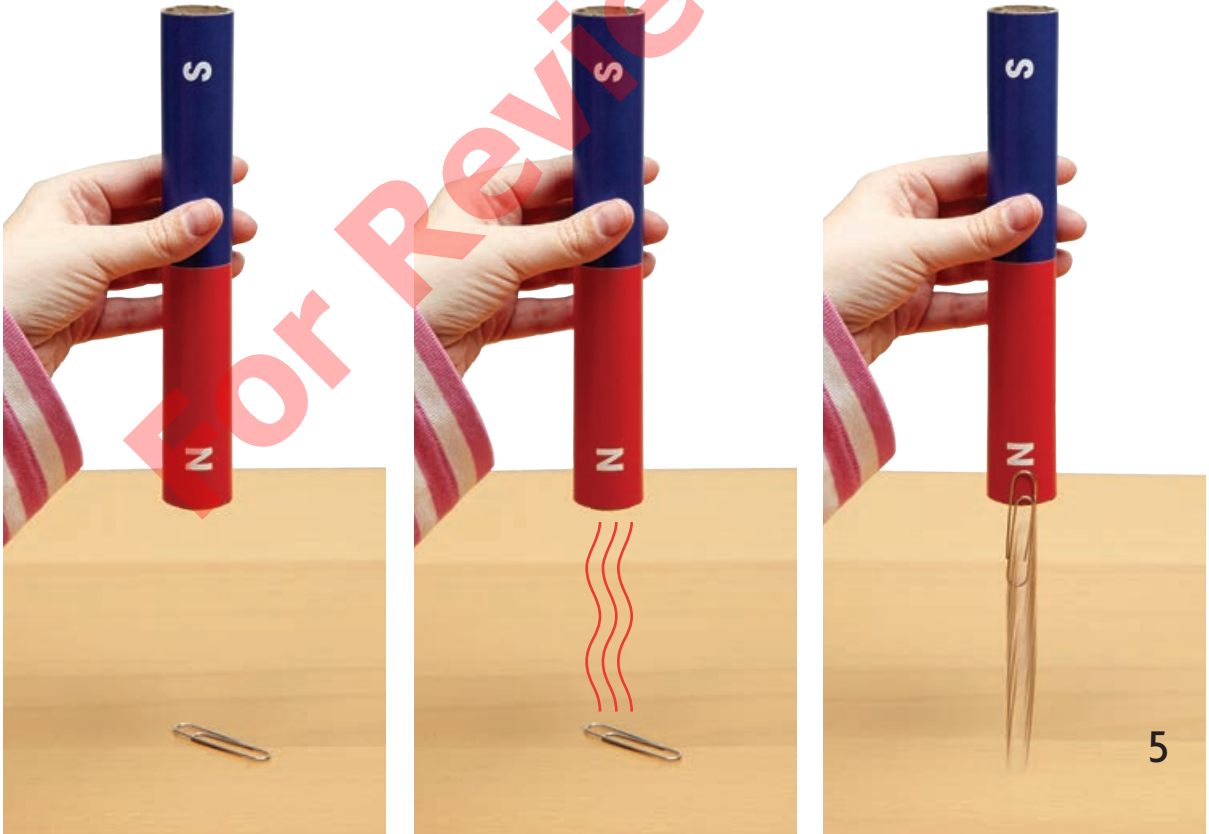
One end is the north pole, and the other end is the south pole.

The opposite poles attract or pull together. The similar poles repel or push apart.



Magnets pull on some objects made of metal, such as paper clips.

This means objects will stick to a magnet. Magnets can also pull other magnets.



Magnets can push. They can push other magnets away. Some objects will not stick to a magnet.

They are made of different materials, like wood, paper, rubber, plastic, or glass.

CHAPTER 3

Moving with Magnets

This teacher is holding a magnet under a plastic lid.

What will happen to the safety pin when she moves the magnet?

A student makes a prediction, or guess. She thinks the magnet will move the safety pin.

The teacher moves the magnet. The magnet pulls the safety pin across the lid.

This means the student was right. The safety pin must be made of metal.

Next, the teacher puts a balloon on the lid.

The student makes a prediction. She thinks the magnet will not move the balloon.

The teacher moves the magnet, but the balloon does not move. The balloon is not made of metal, so the magnet will not pull it.