

# Magnetic Attraction

## Materials

- strong horseshoe magnet
- assortment of magnetic and nonmagnetic objects: feather, paper clip, button, shell, leaf, paper clip or other metal objects
- *Horseshoe Magnet Tag* page
- *Nonmagnetic Object Tags* page
- *Magnetic Object Tags* page
- yarn
- scissors

## Preparation

Make one object tag necklace per child:

- Make one copy each of C1.1, C1.2 and C1.3.
- Cut out each object tag. Punch a hole in each tag. String yarn through the hole to make a necklace.

**NOTE:** *If the group is smaller than ten, be sure to distribute an equal number of magnetic and nonmagnetic object tags and one horseshoe magnet tag.*

Children learn to identify objects that are magnetic or nonmagnetic.

## Procedure

1. Say: **Today we will pretend to be magnetic and nonmagnetic objects.** Place all of the objects on the table. Show the children the horseshoe magnet. **First, let's predict which objects this magnet will pick up.**
2. **Will the magnet pick up the paper clip?** Try to pick up the paper clip. Continue asking the same question for each object. Review which objects are magnetic and which are not.
3. Ask the children to form a circle. Give one child the magnet tag necklace; this child stands in the center. Give the other children either a magnetic or nonmagnetic object tag necklace. ***(Insert child's name)* will pretend to be a magnet. Let's march around the circle and sing a magnet song.** (*Sung to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."*)

*The magnet will attract, the magnet will attract  
Heigh-ho, way to go! The magnet will attract.*

4. Direct the child in the center to choose the child wearing the paper clip tag and lead him/her by the hand to the center. **A paper clip is magnetic. We will march around the circle and sing the song again.** Continue until all the magnetic objects are chosen.
5. Have the children with the magnetic object tags return to the outer circle.
6. Direct the child in the center to choose the child wearing the leaf tag and lead him/her by the hand to the center. **A leaf is nonmagnetic. We will march around the circle and sing another song.** Continue until all the nonmagnetic objects are chosen.

*The magnet will NOT attract, the magnet will NOT attract  
Heigh-ho, no way no-no! The magnet will NOT attract.*