

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
FIRST GRADE**

**Title of Lesson:** What Can a Magnet Pull Through?

**Theme:** Physical Science

**Unit Number:** 3      **Unit Title:** Magnets

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

S1P2c

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

magnet, magnetic field, force, metal

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** This lesson was about how various materials do not block the force of a magnet.

**Details:** Prior to this lesson, the students should have learned about magnets. They should know that there is a north and south pole and that magnets either attract/repel. Before the experiment begins, review the vocabulary words they learned in the previous class. In this lesson, you introduce the students to the terms magnetic field and force. The first part of the experiment the students draw a maze on a piece of paper. A lot of first graders don't even know how to draw a maze, so they can learn a new skill in the process of this lesson. Tell them repeatedly that they need to have a start and finish. Then ask them the question: Can you guide a paperclip through the maze? This showed them that a magnet can pull through paper. The second part of the experiment the students were each given a plastic cup full of water. The students were instructed to drop a paperclip in the cup of water. Then ask them the question: Can you rescue the paperclip from the cup of water without getting wet? This showed that a magnet can pull through not only plastic but also water.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

One per student:

Magnet

**Metal Paper clip**

**Marker**

**Piece of paper (colored)**

**Plastic cup of water**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**If time allows, use more materials such as cloth, cardboard, foil and wood.**

**Have examples of what a maze looks like for the students to better understand how to make their own**

**Caution: stress the fact that the students should NOT get wet when rescuing the paper clip.**

**Sources/References:**

**1) "Chapter 5: Magnets." HSP Science: Georgia. Harcourt School, 2009. 154-85. Print.**

**2)**

**3)**