

Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
THIRD GRADE

Title of Lesson: Magnetic Maze Journey

Theme: Physical Science

Unit Number: Unit Title: Magnets & Magnetism

Performance Standard(s) covered (enter code):

S3P2. Students will investigate magnets and how they affect other magnets and common objects.

- a. investigate to find common objects that are attracted to magnets

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions**
- Uses numbers to quantify**
- Works in groups**

- Uses tools to measure and view**
- Looks at how parts of things are needed**
- Describes and compares using physical attributes**
- Observes using sense**
- Draws and describes observations**

Content(key terms and topics covered):

Magnets
Magnetism
Attract
Repel
Poles

Learning Activity (description in steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): Students will work in groups to draw a maze and then lead a magnetic object through the maze, using only a magnet.

Details:

Break the students up into groups of two. Instruct them that together they must draw a maze (this can be hard for them to picture in their mind, so put a maze on the Smartboard).

After they have finished drawing their mazes, refresh their memory by discussing magnets and their properties. Each group will now be handed one magnet and one paper clip. Instruct the students that they have to lead the paper clip through their maze, without using their hands to guide it. The kids will look stumped for awhile, but then testing out their magnets they will realize they can lead it via a magnetic attraction.

Have children write down observations and what they learned in their Science journals.

Materials Needed (type and quantity):

Computer paper

Magnets

Paper clips

Notes and Tips (general changes, alternative methods, cautions):

-have the children race through their mazes! Time the students as they guide their paper clips through the maze. This was really exciting and got the whole class involved.

Sources/References:

1) <http://www.crayola.com/lesson-plans/magnetic-mazes-lesson-plan/>