Magnets at Work

Read about how magnets help in everyday life.

P.3.6.3 "Research and communicate information to explain how magnets are used in everyday life."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle five objects that use magnets, and underline the words that explain what each magnet does.

Maya's Magnetic Day

1. At breakfast, Maya pulls open the fridge door. A flexible magnetic strip inside the door's edge helps hold the door shut against the steel frame. This helps keep cold air inside. Later, she opens a kitchen cabinet. A small magnet in the cabinet catch pulls on a steel plate on the door. That pull keeps the cabinet door closed until someone opens it.

2. On the way to school, Maya hears music from a speaker. Inside the speaker, a magnet works with a moving part called a coil. Electric current in the coil makes it move near the magnet. The moving coil helps shake a thin part that pushes air to make sound. At the recycling center, a large magnet lifts steel cans away from other items. It does not lift aluminum cans.

3. After school, Maya takes a compass on a walk. Its tiny magnet is a needle that can turn. Earth's magnetic field helps the needle point roughly north, so Maya can check her direction. These jobs are different, but each magnet helps people do something useful. Magnets can pull on iron and many kinds of steel. They do not pull on every kind of metal, so people choose materials with care.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do magnets help keep both doors shut? Tell what each magnet pulls on.

2. How does the magnet in the speaker help make sound?

3. Why can the recycling magnet lift steel cans but not aluminum cans?

4. How does the compass magnet help Maya check her direction?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a way to use a magnet at home or school that is not in the passage. In two sentences, tell what it would pull on and why that would be useful.

ANSWER KEY

Magnets at Work

GRADE 3 · P.3.6.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle five objects that use magnets, and underline the words that explain what each magnet does. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do magnets help keep both doors shut? Tell what each magnet pulls on.	**The fridge door's magnetic strip pulls toward the steel frame. The cabinet catch magnet pulls on a steel plate on the door.**
2	How does the magnet in the speaker help make sound?	**It works with a moving coil. The coil helps shake a thin part that pushes air to make sound.**
3	Why can the recycling magnet lift steel cans but not aluminum cans?	**Magnets pull on many kinds of steel, but they do not pull on aluminum.**
4	How does the compass magnet help Maya check her direction?	**The compass's magnetic needle points roughly north, which helps Maya check her direction.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would put a magnet inside my pencil case to hold steel paper clips in one place. The magnet would pull on the clips so they would not spill out when I carry the case.

Accept other accurate explanations supported by the passage. For Your Turn, accept a new use that names a material a magnet can attract and explains how the pull helps.