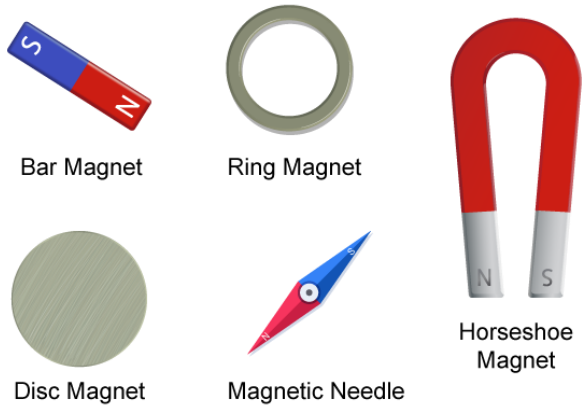
Science – Forces – Year 3 – Spring 2

Vocabulary Top Ten:

attract	pull towards
force	a push or a pull
friction	the rubbing of one thing against another
magnet	an object that produces a magnetic force
magnetic force	pulls certain objects towards it
magnetic field	the area around a magnet where there is a magnetic force
pole	either of the two ends of a magnet where the magnetic field is strongest
repel	to push away
North pole (N)	the part of the magnet that is attracted to the North
South pole (S)	the part of the magnet that is attracted to the South

Types of Magnet



North and South Poles

opposite poles attract



same poles repel



Key Facts:

Some magnets are stronger than others. Strong magnets will create bigger pushing or pulling forces than weak magnets.



scrap metal magnet



Magnetic materials are always made of metal, but not all metals are magnetic. **Iron** is magnetic, so any metal with iron in it will be attracted to a magnet. **Steel** contains iron, so a steel paperclip will be attracted to a magnet too.

Most other metals, for example aluminium, copper and gold, are **NOT** magnetic.

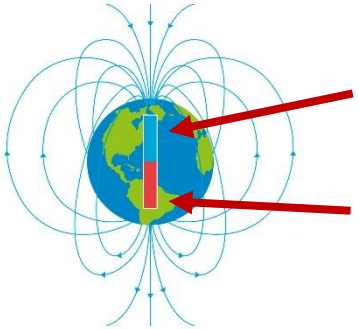


Magnetic compasses were invented by the Chinese in around 206BC.



The Earth has a natural magnetic field, which means the pin turns to always face North and help people find their way.

The North pole of the compass needle seeks a South pole, which is at the North of the Earth.



The Arctic is a magnetic South pole and the Antarctic is a magnetic North pole.