Nova’s Magnetic Investigation Record

Learning objective: To observe how magnets attract or repel each other and identify magnetic materials.

Join Nova the owl in her laboratory! Use this experiment record to document your findings as you test different objects with a magnet. Remember to write clearly and explain what you observe when two magnets are brought together.

Word bank: attract · repel · magnetic · non-magnetic · poles · force · metal · iron

1. Prediction: Which three items in the classroom do you think are magnetic? Explain why you think this. (2 marks)

2. The Results Table: List the items you tested and state whether they were attracted to the magnet or not. (3 marks)

3. Magnetic Poles: What happens when you place the North pole of one magnet near the North pole of another magnet? (2 marks)

4. Scientific Conclusion: Based on your experiment, what materials are usually magnetic? (2 marks)

5. Real-world application: Max the monkey needs to pick up a paperclip he dropped behind a heavy wooden desk. How can a magnet help him? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Nova wants to know: If you have a magnet and a bowl of water with paperclips at the bottom, can the magnet pull the paperclips through the glass or plastic side of the bowl? Write down what you think would happen!