Nova’s Magnetic Discovery Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand the properties of magnets, magnetic poles, and magnetic materials as per the Year 6 science curriculum.

Read the question on the front of the card. Try to answer it before checking the answer provided after the pipe symbol. Use these to test your knowledge of magnetism!

What do we call the two ends of a magnet where the magnetic force is strongest?

Magnetic poles (the North Pole and the South Pole).

What happens when two like poles (e.g., North and North) are brought close together?

They repel, which means they push each other away.

What happens when two opposite poles (e.g., North and South) are brought close together?

They attract, which means they pull towards each other.

Which common metal is strongly attracted to magnets?

Iron (this also includes steel, which contains iron).

What is the name of the invisible area around a magnet where its force can be felt?

A magnetic field.

True or False: All metals are magnetic.

False. Only some metals, such as iron, nickel, and cobalt, are magnetic.

Nova wants to make a magnet that can be turned on and off using electricity. What is this called?

An electromagnet.

If you cut a bar magnet in half, what happens to the poles?

You get two smaller magnets, each with its own North and South pole.

How can you show the shape of a magnetic field using iron filings?

Sprinkle the filings around the magnet; they will align with the invisible magnetic field lines.

What is a 'permanent magnet'?

A material that keeps its magnetism all the time, unlike an electromagnet.