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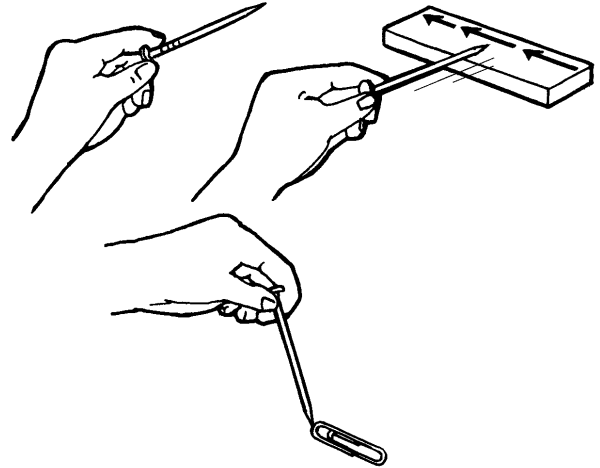
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Make a Magnet

It's easy to make a magnet. Try it and see.

Here's what you need:

- one nail
- a strong bar magnet
- paper clips
- thumbtacks



Here's what to do:

1. Hold the top end of the nail between your fingers.
2. Rub the pointed end of the nail across the magnet. Stroke the magnet *in the same direction* 30 to 40 times. (Remember, do not stroke the nail in a back-and-forth motion!)
3. Now try to pick up a paper clip or a thumbtack with the nail. What happened?

Now try this:

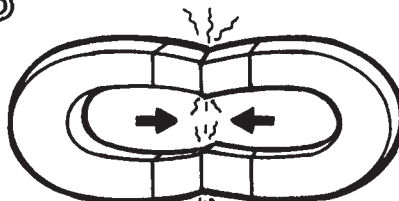
1. Hold the nail about six inches (15 cm) above a table and drop the nail.
2. Pick up the nail and try to attract (hold) a paper clip with the nail. What happened? Why?

Magnetic Vocabulary

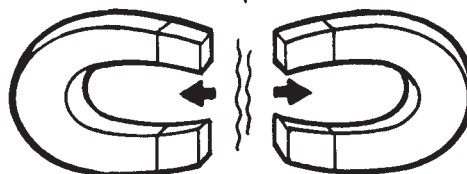
magnet—a piece of iron or steel that attracts certain metals



attract—to pull close



repel—to push away



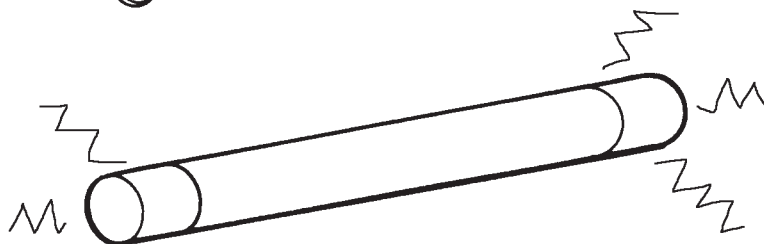
magnetic pole—the strongest point on a magnet



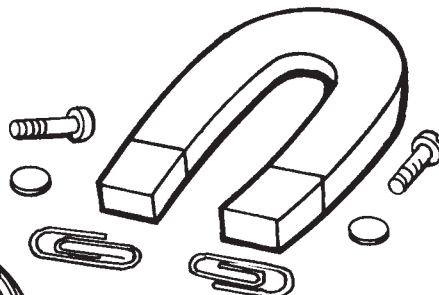
magnetic object—something that is attracted to a magnet



force—energy that can cause something to be pushed or pulled



demagnetize—to take away the magnetic ability of a magnet



compass—an instrument with a needle that points North and is used to determine directions

