

Magnets, the Pull of the Earth, Magnets at Work

Homework 1/23 (BBW p10-13)



1. Why does a magnetic compass needle always point in the same direction?

2. The poles of the compass needle are attracted to the Earth's _____
and _____ poles.
3. What do scientists believe that the earth's magnetism comes from?

4. What happens when two or more compasses are placed next to
eachother? _____
5. Name some ways that magnets are used to do work for us. (p.12)

5. Can you think of some items in your home that use a magnet that are
different that those mentioned in our reading? _____

6. Food cans are usually made from steel and soda cans are made from
aluminum. The two metals must be separated before they are melted down and
recycled. Explain how steel and aluminum cans can be sorted with a magnet

(Please check answers when finished)

answers: 1)because the whole earth is magnetic 2)north and south 3)red-hot melted iron deep inside the earth 4) because compasses are magnetic, they attract or repel eachother giving a false reading 5) bar magnets fastened to doors hold them shut, astronauts use them to hold things to the wall of their spacecraft, they are used with electricity to make motors work, a powerful magnet can hold a warning light to the roof of a police car, cassette and videotapes use magnetism to record sounds and pictures.6) answers vary, such things as an electric can opener, headphones, stereo speakers, phone ringers, seal around refrigerator door, refrigerator magnets to hold things, shower curtain magnets to hold it to the tub, credit card magnetic strip 7)steel is attracted by magnets, but aluminum is not, so you can sort them with a magnet.

