

Magnet Play

Primary Objectives

11d. Shows curiosity and motivation

Why It's Important

Your child can learn about objects by touching them, using them, and exploring their functions. Giving him the opportunity to explore objects allows him the freedom to determine for himself how an object works. Encouraging this type of investigation promotes your child's curiosity about the world around him.

Materials

Several different magnets; magnetic board

What You Do

1. Place the magnets on a table next to the magnet board.
2. Invite your child to play with the magnets at the table. Allow him to experiment with the magnets, adding them to and removing them from the magnet board.
3. Without intervening, watch him discover how to stick the magnets to the board and to each other. Discuss with your child what he notices about the magnets. *I see that those two magnets stick together when you get them close to each other. Look how they stay on the magnet board when you turn it upside down.*
4. When your child has had time to explore the magnet board, encourage him to test other surfaces in the room with the magnets. Walk around the room with him and talk about his experiments. *What did you notice when you put the magnet on the refrigerator?*
5. When your child completes the activity, ask him to stick all the magnets back on the magnet board.