Objective: Students will learn about magnetism and then use that knowledge to create their own magnet maze.

Arkansas State Standards Addressed:

Science

PS.7.K.4 Demonstrate effects of magnets on each other and other objects.

PS.7.K.5 List some uses of magnets in everyday objects.

PS.7.K.6 Investigate magnets of various shapes.

Activity:

Instructions for creating a magnet maze are available online:

Materials needed for this project include:
• One paper plate per student
• Markers, colored pencils, and/or crayons for students to decorate their maze
• 12-inch length of dowel, one for each student
• 2 small magnets for each student, approximately 1/8-in thick and 3/8-in diameter
• Glue gun
• Glue stick, one for each student
• Maze printable, available online: http://www.cbc.ca/parents/content/imgs/BookabooMagnetMazePrintables.jpg

This fun activity would be a great extension of a lesson on magnetism for kindergarten students. In using this activity with young students, glue the dowel and magnet together with the hot glue gun prior to the lesson. To extend this activity, consider having students develop and draw their own character and the character’s “goal” at the center of the maze.

Additional Resources at Bentonville Public Library:

The following resources are specifically about magnetism. Accelerated Reading Levels are included when available. All items are available for checkout at Bentonville Public Library; call numbers are included in brackets. Online resources are available through BPL’s Student Portal: http://www.bentonvillelibrary.org/student-portal/

Books

• Magnetism by Abbie Dunne. AR Reading Level: 2.5. Non-Fiction. [ENF 538 DUN]
• A Look at Magnets by Barbara Alpert. AR Reading Level: 2.2. Non-Fiction. [ENF 538.2 ALP]

Online Resources

• PebbleGo, an online database available through BPL’s Student Portal, has a section on Magnetism under Science/Physical Science/Forces and Motion geared toward young students
Explore Space Exhibit Information:
Explore Space: A Cosmic Journey, a traveling exhibition for libraries, is part of the STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Exhibit partners include the American Library Association, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and Afterschool Alliance. Explore Space is supported through a grant from the National Science Foundation.
Paper Plate Magnet Maze Printables