

THE AMAZING MAGNET MYSTERY

by EasyReadStories.com

One sunny morning, Sarah plays in her backyard. She notices something colorful lying in the grass. It is shaped like a horseshoe and gleams in the sunlight. When she picks it up, it sticks to her bracelet.

"That's weird!" Sarah says. She turns it over in her hand. "What is this thing?"

She runs down the street to her best friend Ian's house.

Ian is in the living room, driving his toy car through a block tunnel. "Look what I found!"

Sarah says, holding up the colorful horseshoe-shaped object.

Ian's eyes widen. "That's a magnet!" he says.

"A magnet? What's that?" Sarah asks.

"It's something that sticks to metal," Ian explains.

Sarah's face lights up with curiosity. "Let's figure out what it sticks to!"

Testing the Magnet

The two friends rush to the kitchen, where Ian's mom keeps a drawer full of utensils.

Sarah waves the magnet over a pile of spoons, forks, and knives.

"It sticks to the fork!" Sarah says, holding it up.

"And the knife!" Ian adds.

Then Sarah tries it on a shiny quarter sitting on the counter. Nothing happens.

"Huh," Sarah says, tilting her head. "Why doesn't it stick to the quarter?"

Ian frowns and grabs a stainless steel spoon. He holds it near the magnet. "And it doesn't stick to this spoon either!"

"That's strange," Sarah says. "Why does it stick to some things and not others?"

Asking for Help

The kids decide to ask Sarah's big sister Elli for help. Elli is sitting in her room, working on a science project.

"Elli, why doesn't the magnet stick to a quarter or a spoon?" Sarah asks, holding up the horseshoe magnet.

Elli smiles. "Magnets only stick to certain metals, like iron or steel," she says. "Quarters are made of a mix of metals that aren't magnetic, and some spoons are made of stainless steel, which doesn't have enough iron."

"That makes sense!" Sarah says.



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Elli looks at the magnet. "You could use this to make a fun game," she says. "What about fishing for paperclips?"

Ian's eyes light up. "That's a great idea!"

The Magnet Hunt

Before making the game, Sarah and Ian decide to hunt for more metal. They wave the magnet near a metal bench outside.

"It sticks!" Sarah says, laughing.

Next, they test a mailbox. The magnet sticks to the side of it. Then Ian spots an old bucket near the garden. "Try that!" he says.

Sarah moves the magnet close, and it sticks to the bucket too. "We're finding all kinds of stuff!" she says.

Suddenly, Ian jumps and laughs. "Whoa!" he says.

"What happened?" Sarah asks.

Ian points to his belt buckle. "The magnet stuck to my buckle!" he says, tugging it loose.

Sarah giggles. "This magnet is full of surprises!"

Solving the Mystery

By the end of the day, Sarah and Ian sit on the porch with a pile of metal objects they've found, including forks, a rusty nail, and a shiny key.

"We've learned so much," Sarah says.

"Magnets stick to some metals, but not all of them," Ian says.

"And they're really fun to use," Sarah adds.

Ian holds up the colorful horseshoe magnet. "This thing is like a magic treasure finder."

Sarah smiles. "We should name it!"

They think for a moment. Then Ian grins. "How about Stickster?"

"Perfect!" Sarah says.

The two friends laugh, ready for more adventures with Stickster the treasure finder.



Questions for Discussion

- Why did the magnet stick to some things but not others?
- If you had a magnet, what would you look for with it?
- Why do you think magnets are useful?