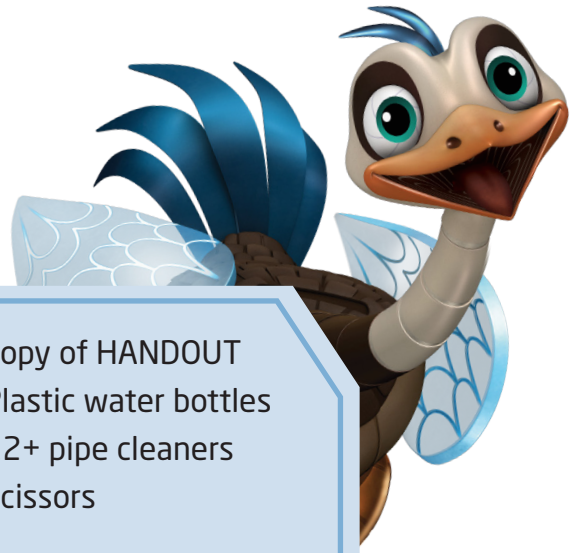
SCIENCE MISSION:
MAGNETIC ATTRACTION



MATERIALS

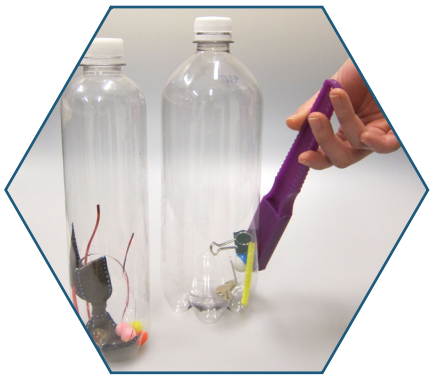
- Magnet wand or magnets of different sizes
- Collection of metal objects (e.g., brads, paperclips, wool pompoms, confetti, paper)
- Collection of nonmetal objects (e.g., confetti, ribbon, plastic, wool pompoms)
- Copy of HANDOUT
- Plastic water bottles
- 12+ pipe cleaners
- Scissors

Preparation

1. Cut a dozen multicolored pipe cleaners into 2-inch strips.
2. Place the pipe cleaners into an empty plastic water bottle and close the lid.
3. Place a combination of other metal and non-metal objects in 2 other empty plastic bottles.

Magnetic Attraction

1. Have your child predict what will happen if they move a magnet around each bottle on the HANDOUT.
2. Move a magnet wand around the surface of the bottle.
3. Observe and discuss how the magnet attracts pipe cleaners because of the metal core. Discuss which items are attracted to magnets and which are not.
4. Try different sizes or strengths of magnets and observe differences in the amount of pipe cleaners attracted.



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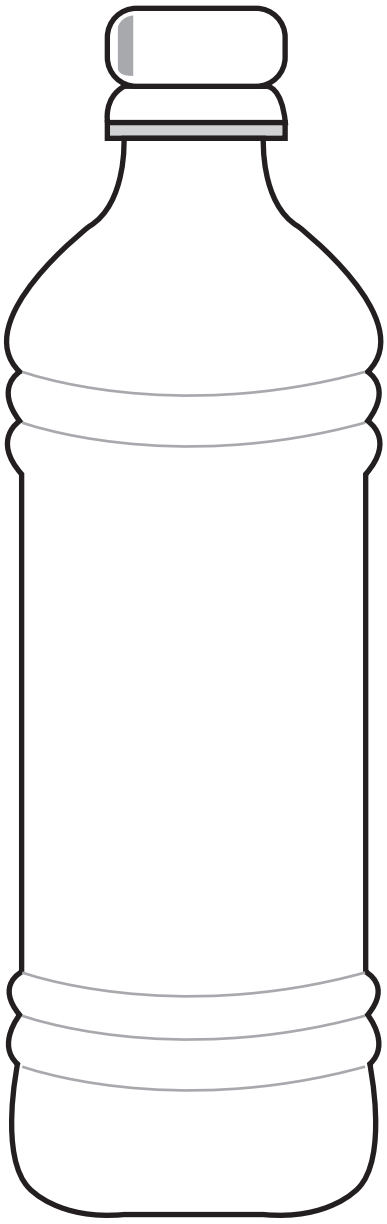
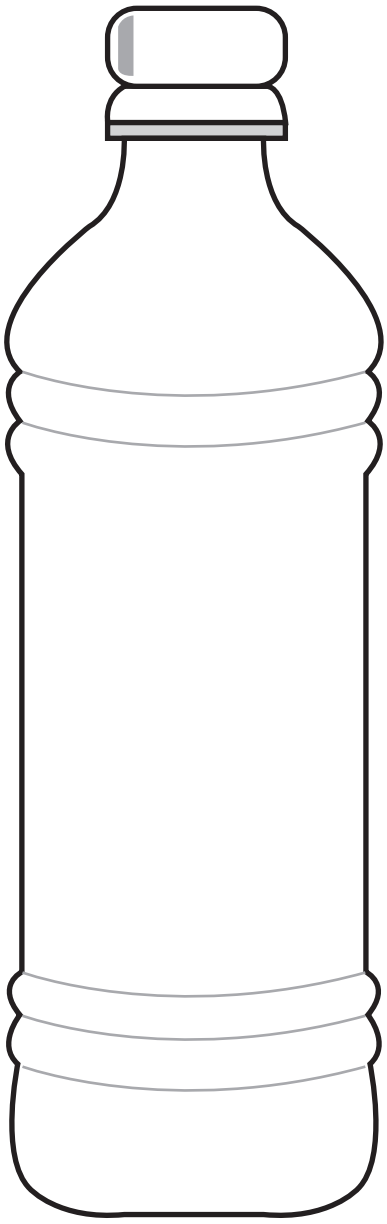
MISSION HANDOUT:
MAGNETIC ATTRACTION

1. Draw and color the objects you see in each bottle.
2. Predict which ones will stick to a magnet.
3. Try a magnet on each bottle.
4. Circle the things that stick to the magnet.
5. Talk about which things did or did not stick to the magnets.

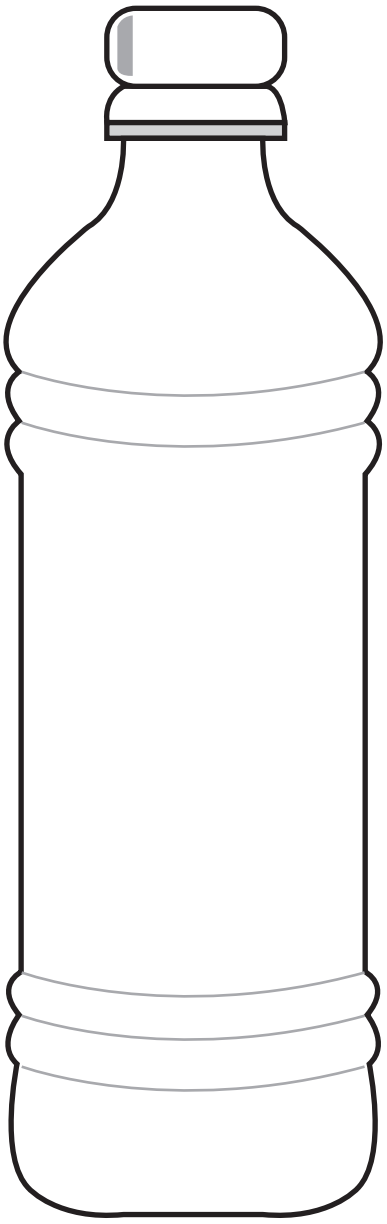
bottle 1



bottle 2



bottle 3



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