

# Grade 3

## Matter and Magnetism



In this learning experience, students experience and describe matter by observing its **properties**, such as hardness, color, smell, shape, state, and magnetism. The process of observing properties of matter directly and indirectly begins with manipulating Mystery Film cans to try to determine what objects they contain, and how they can be classified. Students then experience matter in three states to help them form their own operational definitions of solids, liquids, and gases.

As students observe the properties of magnets, they begin to understand that magnetism is a property that reveals itself only when a magnet is interacting with certain materials. Students learn that they can't actually see magnetism, but they can see what happens when a magnet is placed near different materials, and experience the invisible forces that can pull objects closer together or push them apart.

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