

Motor Madness [Activity]

This activity shows the link between magnetism and electric motors.

Answer to Discussion Question.

A magnet can exert a force on an electric current.

Answers to Procedure Questions

- A. 1. The magnets can push the current in the swing.
- 2. If the magnets aren't there, the swing doesn't move.
- 3. The observations support the idea that a magnet can exert a force on an electric current.
- B. 1. The handle of the generator starts to move.
- 2. The motion of the handle is faster.

Answers to Summing Up Questions

- 1. Stronger magnets, magnetic poles closer to the wire, or more current in the wire, for example.
- 2. Answers will vary and some devices could be argued either way. Generally speaking, the blow dryer, shaver, cassette player, CD/DVD player, vending machine, VCR, washing machine, and car are easy to make arguments for.
- 3. Answers will vary. Count on anything that uses electric energy to make something move.