

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshop

January Mini Hockey Game

Ages 5-12

Hockey Basics

Have you ever watched a hockey game in person or on TV? If so, you may know that hockey teams have 20 players—and six take the ice at a time. Two defensemen, a right wing, a left wing, a center, and a goalie all work together to score goals *and* prevent the other team from scoring.

However, your mini hockey game is a little different. With just one player on each side, you'll have to work a little harder to protect your goal (defense) and try to score (offense)! Can you think of any strategies that may help your offense or defense?

Laws of Attraction

If your ultimate goals are to *repel* the puck from your goal and *attract* the puck into your opponent's goal, there's one material that may come in handy...Magnets!

You'll need:

- Your Mini Hockey Game
- At least 5 magnetics, which could include one or more of the following:
 - Ring magnets
 - Disk Magnets
 - Block magnets
 - Magnetic tape
- Masking tape or stickers
- Super glue
- Scissors



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If you have already learned about magnets, you likely know that all magnets have two sides: a North pole and a South pole. If you push the South poles or the North poles of two different magnets together, they *repel* and push each other apart. However, if you push the North pole of one magnet and the South pole of another magnet together, they *attract!* The North and South poles of two different magnets always pull towards each other.

Experiment with your magnets to see which sides attract and repel each other:

1. Begin with one magnet, and place a sticker or small piece of masking tape on one of its sides.
2. Pick up a second magnet and bring it close to the sticker side of the first magnet. Which side of the second magnet repels the first magnet and which side attracts the first magnet? Place a sticker or small piece of masking tape on the side that repels the first magnet.
3. Repeat Step #2 with each of the magnets. This will help you keep track of your magnets' poles, because you'll know that a sticker side must be paired with another sticker side to repel and a blank side to attract.

Home Team Advantage

Now brainstorm how you could use these magnets to help you win the hockey game...or, at least, play more competitively!

Think about where you may want to repel and attract the hockey puck, and use the masking tape to attach magnets to various parts of your mini hockey game. Masking tape is easy to remove, so be sure to experiment with different ideas. Remember to think about your magnets' poles as you experiment.

Possibilities to test include:

- Magnetic puck and hockey sticks
- Magnetic puck and goals
- Magnetic puck and rink sides
- ...All of the above

It may be helpful to have a friend or family member play with you as you try out different magnet configurations and see what works best. Once you have figured out how to use the magnets to repel and attract the puck in just the right places, secure the magnets thoroughly using more tape (or the super glue if you're confident with your choices!).

MAKE. CREATE. EXPLORE.



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Face-Off

Once your rink is complete, it's time to play.

Find an opponent and flip a coin to see who gets to choose their side of the rink. Then place the puck in the center, countdown from three, and begin. The first person to score seven goals wins!

Once the first game is complete, switch sides and play a second time. As you do, think about whether this game seems harder or easier than the first game. Do the magnets seem to affect how well you can play? No matter what, continue until someone scores seven goals.



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