This book was interesting because I found some things I didn't know about magnets. What is a magnet? Magnets are made of iron and even steel. We use steel because steel is made from iron. Magnets are used in many different ways which include keeping a note on the refrigerator or directing us around the world in a compass. Magnets came to us from ancient Greece in a place called Magnesia. In fact, magnets derived from a rock named magnetite. The Chinese discovered magnetism before the Greeks did. They realized portions of a magnetic rock pulled in a north/south direction. They were the first to use a compass. Later, Oersted discovered compasses reacting to a wire. He soon realized electricity running through a wire creates a magnetic field around a wire. This was later renamed electromagnetism. Electromagnetism is now used in televisions, electrical cords, and even electric guitars. We now use electromagnetism in MRI scans, CD’s and even DVD’s.

This book showed many possibilities and ways to use magnets. Even the biggest magnet of all is one we barely realize: the Earth. This book is one that barely scratches the surface about magnets. Then again, this book is meant for grade school students, but this is not the book for students who are deeply interested in magnets. This is the book for students who want to know just the generalized information about magnets.

The pictures in this book are meaningful to the information on the page. If the page is describing things a magnet can hold, the picture shows a magnet lifting paper clips or small
iron objects. On a page describing the origins of magnets and their production from magnetite, a small picture of a rock formation of magnetite is included. Finally, when describing how electromagnetism works in MRI machines, an imitation MRI image covers half of a page. Overall, this book is a very easy to read and is perfect for someone just learning about the basics of magnets. The vocabulary not extensive nor is it out of an elementary school child's learning abilities. Amber Potts ESU Elementary Education Student