

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Investigation 4-1 Finding Iron in Your Cereal (LM 13)

Materials:

Iron-fortified cereal (flakes)
Self-sealing sandwich bag
Warm Water
Strong Magnet

Purpose

Do you think that iron-fortified cereal contains real bits of iron? In this investigation, you will observe bits of iron in an iron-fortified cereal.

Procedure

Procedure Step	Observations
1. Cereal in bag	
4. Appearance of specks	
5. Behavior with a magnet	

1. Place about a handful of iron-fortified cereal into a sandwich bag, remove as much air as possible and crush the cereal into a fine powder.
2. Add just enough water to the cereal in the bag to make the cereal into a very wet slurry, mixing the water and cereal well.
3. Drag the magnet slowly across the cereal looking for small dark specks that follow the magnet. Slide the specks to one corner of the bag and lift the magnet directly up, leaving the specks in that corner.
4. Observe carefully the appearance of the specks,
5. Use the magnet to pick up the specks and move them to another location in the sealed bag.

Questions and Conclusions

1. What did the specks look like?

2. How did they behave near a magnet?

3. Were the wet cereal bits attracted to the magnet?

4. What element behaves this way near a magnet?