

Magnetic Accelerator

Concepts

Explanation:

This is an analogy to the bonding attractions in ionic compounds. The ionic attractions are represented by the magnetic attractions between the magnetic sphere and the metal spheres. As they approach the magnetic attraction increases the drawn towards each other and this attraction is converted to kinetic energy as the balls collide. This energy is then transferred through the ball sequence and finally shoots the final marble off the ramp. This is similar to the attraction of ions and the overall release of energy when ions combine to form compounds.

Sources:

If you have other explanations, concepts, or ideas for this demonstration please share them by contacting our Chem Demo team (bedell@nku.edu; sieveb1@nku.edu). We will pass them on to the community and credit you with the ideas.