

# Superconducting Mag-Lev Track

Magnetic levitation can eliminate the friction which makes it so difficult to move cars or trains.

## WHAT TO DO

Observe the Quantum Levitator disk as it floats above and perfectly follows the track of powerful magnets. *[Warning- never grab or hold the disk as it is extremely cold, but you may very gently tap the disk with your fingertip to make it move.]*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Inside the quantum levitator disk is a thin film of Yttrium-Barium-Copper-Oxygen on sapphire that has been cooled to more than  $-300^{\circ}\text{F}$  with liquid nitrogen so that it becomes superconducting (zero electrical resistance) causing it to levitate above and follow a track of powerful Neodymium-Iron-Boron magnets for about 2 minutes until it warms up and gently lands on the track. But wait- if we flip everything upside-down the disk is just as happy floating along beneath the magnetic track!