Magnets or lodestones were used by the Chinese in the early ages for navigating through terrain that wasn't visible. The development mostly stemmed out of the constant warfare mankind was embattled in the ancient times. One of the earliest innovations regarding compasses before the modern version came about was using an Iron wire which got magnetized by keeping it near the Lodestone and placing the wire within a wooden block suspended by a body of water. By the middle ages the Europeans had added additional features of keeping a pivotal pin for rotating of the magnetized needle freely finalizing the compass to have a “cross” shape with a rotating needle to point towards the North with the respective other three directions separated by 32 points from the North.

The earth's core is completely liquid comprising of Iron,sulphur and nickel which has a continuous circulating motion producing the Magnetic field of the earth. One of the striking features about the planet is that it's rotational axis and magnetic axis' do not coincide and vary with latitudes. In the case of the Sun the uneven rotation based on the latitudes cause deformations on the surface and is a leading cause for the Sun's magnetism. And that disordered convection patterns created by the asymmetric rotation of the planet can produce a dynamo effect field. Which would create current based on the rotation of the magnetic field