

## ***STEP Program for Teachers***

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual **NPRA Science Teacher Enhancement Program or STEP** will be held in Houston, Texas, in June. The goal is to provide 60 elementary school teachers the opportunity to learn what more than 1,500 teachers already know: toys make great teaching tools for the science of chemistry in the early grades. We need your support to make it happen.

The NPRA program is based on a highly successful, award-winning program developed by Dr. Mickey Sarquis, of the Center for Chemical Education at Miami University of Ohio. Each one-week program focuses on hands-on activities to bring the science of chemistry to life for students. Using toys and other everyday objects, elementary school teachers are shown how to encourage students to make real-life connections between their classroom and the outside world.

Sasol is a major sponsor of this program and sponsors at least one teacher annually to attend the course, including a \$200 stipend and any travel expenses. Lunch and breakfast are also included in the program.

STEP is an effective effort to improve the teaching of science in our schools. By making chemistry intriguing and fun, teachers are helping to empower today's young people with the knowledge base and critical thinking skills needed to succeed tomorrow in a wide range of science-based professions. It helps build the future scientific and engineering talent pool needed by the refiners and petrochemical producers. It helps make refining and petrochemical manufacturing processes more understandable to our neighbors. And it allows us to give something back to the communities where we live and operate.

Sasol sponsors teachers from the SWLA area to attend this program. For more information about the 2007 program or to complete an application to be considered for sponsorship, please contact Nancy Tower at 337-494-5301 or by e-mail at [nancy.tower@us.sasol.com](mailto:nancy.tower@us.sasol.com)