

## **Arkema Science Teacher Program**

*Groundbreaking Initiative Pairs Scientists with Local Educators for a Hands-on Learning Experience*

Partners Arkema scientists with local elementary school teachers for a week of real-life science training. With tighter school budgets, Arkema's Science Teacher Program helps fill the gap by providing teachers with hands-on lessons and custom-created science kits that give them tools to make learning fun.

The science kits explore everything from ecosystems, microscopic worlds, the physics of sound and the human body, to magnetism and electricity, mixtures and solutions. Teachers choose the topics they wish to focus on during the program and then bring new skills back to school in the fall.

Arkema developed the Science Teacher Program in 1996 to address a negative trend discovered while interviewing teachers in elementary and secondary education: teachers did not enjoy and were not adequately equipped to teach hands-on science. In many cases, science was taught in a very superficial way or not at all. Instead of addressing the deficiencies of science education with short-term remedies, Arkema developed the program to strategically focus on teacher development. Education experts advised that dramatic, illustrative hands-on science activities could only help students more clearly understand scientific principles, but can get them excited about science, sparking curiosity that may lead students to careers in science.

### **National Impact:**

Since its inception in 1996, more than 800 teachers have taken part in Arkema's Science Teacher Program and have gone on to share their knowledge with more than 50,000 students nationwide – many of which come from socio-economically disadvantaged homes.

To learn more about Arkema [www.arkema-inc.com](http://www.arkema-inc.com) and the Science Teacher Program [www.ScienceForTeachers.com](http://www.ScienceForTeachers.com) click on these links.