JFQDONAT.
196

DSW 135894

STLCOPCB4035864

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Cindy A. Hauser
Phone: (314) 622-1501

MONSANTO'S J.F. QUEENY PLANT INVESTS IN SCIENCE EDUCATION FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

ST. LOUIS, January 24, 1996 -- Monsanto's John F. Queeny plant, located in the Soulard area of St. Louis, today presented a $14,500 check from the Monsanto Fund to Lafayette Elementary School to be used to improve science instruction.

Steven J. Henderson, Queeny plant manager, presented the donation to Mrs. Betty Purnell, principal of Lafayette School, to fulfill a need identified by the school last year. "Science education has languished as a poor cousin to the urgencies of teaching basic skills: reading, writing and mathematics," said Purnell. "However, our focus is shifting from teaching these skills in isolation... towards integrating basic skills into a literacy-centered, thematic approach of which hands-on science activities are an integral part."

"During a conversation last fall with Alderwoman Phyllis Young she identified the need to improve science education among local students to help better prepare them for later studies and possibly careers in math and science," said Henderson. "As a science and technology based company, Monsanto is committed to improving science education. We are also committed to being a good corporate neighbor and assisting with local needs where

(more)

STLCOPCB4035865

possible. We are pleased that we were able to assist Lafayette School through this donation."

The funds will be used to purchase materials identified as critical to the success of its science education program, train teachers and create units of study for the classroom.

Lafayette Elementary School has more than 500 multi-cultural students in grades K-5. It is located at 815 Ann Street in St. Louis, a few blocks from the Queeny plant.

The Monsanto John F. Queeny plant, the company's first manufacturing facility, employs 145 people in the manufacture of heat transfer fluids, ingredients for sweeteners, and other high performance intermediate materials.

-o0o-

DSW 135896

STLCOPCB4035866