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PRESS RELEASE

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Students in Chicago, Illinois Learn About the Illinois Oil & Gas Industry

On March 25, 2009, the Illinois Petroleum Resources Board (IPRB) visited Courtenay Elementary School in Chicago, Illinois. Approximately 172 K-8th grade students learned about the Illinois oil and gas industry from IPRB presenter Mr. Lelan Russell.

Students received rulers, pencils, and magnets proclaiming “Illinois Crude Oil is Cool!”. After learning that thousands of products are made from petroleum, such as medicines, cosmetics, plastics, and gasoline, students tried to imagine what life would be like without it. Students also learned that the United States uses a huge quantity of oil, over 20 million barrels each day (1 barrel of oil is equal to 42 gallon). Additionally, students toured the IPRB Traveling Field Trip Exhibit that contains small scale working models of oilfield equipment and “explored” for knowledge about the industry using the exhibit’s eight learning stations.

Hard working Illinois crude oil producers are continually investing in new technology to help find more oil and natural gas. They also fund the IPRB Education and Land Restoration programs via a check-off from the sale of crude oil and natural gas in the state.

For more information, or to schedule the Traveling Field Trip Exhibit at your school or special event please contact Nancy Karch, IPRB office manager at 618/242-2861 or email us at iprb@yahoo.com. This program is provided free to the public or to any school in Illinois. Also, please do not forget to visit our website, which provides industry links, restoration information and much more.