

## UPDATE FROM THE TESEP PROGRAM

Many of you would be aware that SMEDG has been a sponsor of the *Teacher Earth Science Education Program* (TESEP) for a number of years. TESEP's aim is to "teach the earth science teachers", developing confident, well-informed, and enthusiastic high-school teachers who will inspire students to better understand the role which minerals and mining play in their lives, and then students may consider a career in the mining industry. SMEDG is the principal sponsor of TESEP, and our annual contribution is one of our largest.

TESEP is mainly run by volunteers led by Jill Stevens and Phil Gilmore. It is funded by Australian geological/mining professional associations (including SMEDG, the AIG and the Minerals Council of Australia), as well as exploration and mining companies, and others. This initiative is a world leader in the further education of earth science teachers. Since its establishment in 2006, over 3,900 teachers have attended TESEP-hosted Professional Development events, over 2,200 teachers have participated in webinars, over 800 teachers have attended field trips or mine site visits, and over 4,300 students have attended TESEP-run class sessions. Visit the TESEP website at [www.tesep.org.au](http://www.tesep.org.au) for more information about this wonderful initiative. In addition, two reports about recent TESEP Professional Development events in NSW, Victoria and South Australia are now up on the SMEDG website. The rock kits and mineral kits which we help fund have been a huge success in sparking the interest of both teachers and students in geology !

### 'Hands on' with the rock kits

