



a program of the Wellesley Centers for Women

**OPEN CIRCLE
CURRICULUM
2010 & 2011
EDITION**

You told us what you needed, and we listened.

The *Open Circle Curriculum* is even better than ever!

As a research-in-action program of the Wellesley Centers for Women, we continually assess our program quality through training evaluations, class and school observations, and surveys of schools using Open Circle.

In response to feedback from schools and teachers using the Open Circle Curriculum, and mindful of recent Massachusetts legislation related to bullying prevention, we've updated the Curriculum to ensure that it meets educators' needs and remains on the cutting edge of social and emotional learning (SEL) instruction!

We have enhanced the *Open Circle Curriculum* in these areas:

BULLYING PREVENTION

- New content at all grade levels to help educators identify, prevent, and address bullying behavior
- Up-front emphasis on bullying prevention and a Do's and Don'ts list to help teachers respond to bullying "in the moment"
- Clear connections for leveraging Open Circle concepts and skills to prevent and address bullying

EMOTIONAL REGULATION

- Greater focus on emotional regulation skills
- Stronger and more lessons on calming down and self-talk included earlier in lesson sequence

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

- Enhanced evaluation tools, including mid-year and year-end class skill assessments

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE (OVER 75 NEW TITLES!)

- Latest and greatest high-quality children's literature that links to social and emotional concepts

CULTURAL RELEVANCE

- Greater inclusion and representation of diverse student populations, particularly students in urban environments

STUDENT VOICE

- Lessons are even more student-directed, encouraging development of critical-thinking skills