

Boston Public School teachers who have implemented the Urban Improv Teacher Curriculum in their 4th grade classrooms over the past two years have found positive effects on their students and classrooms. Students have enjoyed participating and have learned important skills and lessons.

Teachers Say...

"All the activities in each unit encourage students to think, to offer criticism, and to question."

"The SAW (Super Action Wall) awards were a wonderful way to improve class climate."

"Most students declared that they feel more self-confident now."

"The overall mood of the class was changed. They all seemed to walk away feeling a bit more calm and happy."

"Children are showing much more kindness to each other."

Students Say...

"It brought up issues that were important to my life."

"The activities taught us new things to do instead of fighting."

"I like the games because they taught me something and it was fun."

"I learned that pressuring somebody is bad."

"I learned a lot—like violence is not the answer to anything."

"We learned how to solve problems."

"I liked the Super Action Awards because people become nicer."

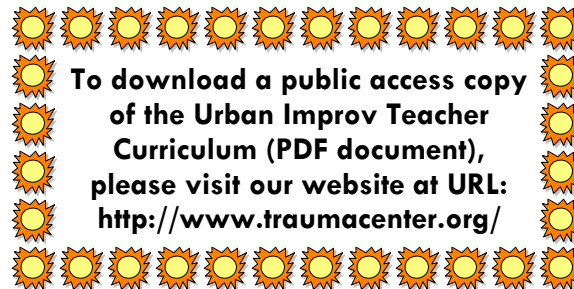
URBAN IMPROV FOR THE CLASSROOM: 4th Grade Teacher Curriculum © 2006

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Developed by...



In collaboration with...



Urban Improv Teacher Curriculum

The Teacher Curriculum was developed by a team of 4th grade Boston Public School teachers, Urban Improv actor/educators, and Trauma Center psychologists to serve as either a supplement to Urban Improv or as a stand-alone youth violence prevention program for classrooms and schools.

Goals

To improve classroom climate and students':

- Conflict resolution, problem-solving, & decision-making skills
- Impulse control
- Self-esteem & confidence
- Imagination & creativity
- Cooperation & teamwork

The curriculum cements learning through increased practice and application of skills in real-life contexts.

Features

- Can be incorporated into standard school lesson plans
- Compatible with MA DOE curriculum; readily adaptable to other state curricula
- Extends for 10 weeks; approximately 2 hours per week; flexible scheduling

Components

PART I: Weekly Themes

Educational activities (structured improvisational theater games, read-alouds, and class discussions) address nine themes:

- Friendship
- Imagination
- Self-esteem
- Peer Pressure
- Fairness
- Violence/
Conflict resolution
- Fear
- Family
- Adventure

PART II: Classroom Management

- Behavior management strategy provides students opportunities to practice the Urban Improv's live action problem-solving approach and apply it to daily classroom conflicts
- Positive reinforcement strategy encourages and rewards prosocial behaviors.
- Fun methods for enhancing classroom climate and increasing teacher control



PART III: Monitoring & Evaluation

Utilization logs that teachers can use to monitor their implementation of the curriculum and evaluate its effectiveness.

Training for Schools & Teachers

The Urban Improv Teacher Curriculum is easy to learn and implement. Training and consultation is available locally, regionally, and nationally to schools and school districts interested in using this unique and engaging program.

Training packages consist of:

- The Urban Improv Teacher Curriculum, including the written manual, texts, and supporting materials
- Half-day workshops for teachers, guidance counselors, and other school staff
- 90-minute introductory talks available within Greater Boston area
- Optional follow-up consultation and support with implementation
- Optional evaluation services to help schools determine the effectiveness of the curriculum with their students

**For more information and training rates, please contact:
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