

## Grades 4-5

### Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum, “I am Winston Churchill / I am Cleopatra”

Inspired by the best-selling kids book series, Ordinary People Change the World, by New York Times bestselling author Brad Meltzer and illustrator Christopher Eliopoulos, XAVIER RIDDLE AND THE SECRET MUSEUM follows the adventures of Xavier, Yadina and Brad as they tackle everyday problems by doing something extraordinary: traveling back in time to learn from real-life inspirational figures like Marie Curie, Harriet Tubman and Jackie Robinson when they were kids. Each adventure will help young viewers make the connection between the skills that made these historical figures heroes and those same qualities within themselves, helping them discover that they, too, can change the world.

I am Winston Churchill - Brad is excited to join a small group of boys building a castle in the KidZone, but his enthusiasm quickly disappears when they refuse to listen to any of his ideas. Brad knows he could help make their castle amazing, if only they'd listen. To the Secret Museum! Our heroes go back in time to meet someone who knew exactly how to command attention: Winston Churchill. They meet Winston just as he's about to play a game of capture the flag with his new schoolmates, but none of them want to listen to his ideas on how to play the game! Knowing he could lead his team to victory, Winston keeps on sharing his ideas, confidently and politely, until the boys finally listen. Their big win shows Brad how important it is to speak up for yourself.

I am Cleopatra - Xavier is stoked to see a super awesome super moon in real life! There's just one problem: he'd have to stay up past bedtime. How can he ask his parents? What if they say no? To the Secret Museum! Our heroes go back in time to meet someone who was skilled at the art of negotiation: Cleopatra. They arrive in Ancient Egypt and find Cleopatra just as she's preparing to ask her father a big question of her own: she wants to end her daily lessons a full hour early so she can attend a festival in town. Luckily, Cleopatra knows exactly how to ask! You have to be prepared, confident, and polite. Seeing how well Cleopatra's strategy works shows Xavier how important it is to ask for things the right way.

**After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning**

#### Question Box 1

Churchill:

- What is Brad excited to do?
- Why does Brad lose his enthusiasm?
- How does Brad feel when others won't listen to his ideas?
- What do the kids hope to learn from Winston Churchill?

***Continued on the next page...***

- Explain how Winston Churchill's situation when he is playing 'capture the flag' with his school friends is similar to Brad's experience.
- What lesson does Brad learn from Churchill?

Cleopatra:

- What does Xavier want to do?
- Why is he having trouble asking his parents for attention?
- Cleopatra is gifted in the "skill of negotiation", what does this mean?
- What does Cleopatra want to ask her father?
- What skills/attributes does Cleopatra use to ask her father permission?
- What lesson does Xavier learn?
- Read more about [Cleopatra](#)

### **Question Box 2**

- Think about how you can combine Churchill and Cleopatra skills.
- How would knowing these skills work together?
- How would it benefit you to learn and use these skills?
- If someone else were looking at this program, what might they learn?
- What is one thing I would like to add to this topic?
- What would you change about this program?
- If a part 2 of this program was created, what you like them to focus on?
- What would you like to research for extra credit? Why?
- What might you want next year's teacher to know about this program?

### **Box 3 (Tasks)**

- Create a storyboard of the show
- Research more about Winston Churchill. What did you learn?
- Research more about Cleopatra. What did you find?
- In designing the castle wall with cube-shaped blocks, how many blocks would you need if it was 12 blocks long and 8 blocks wide? Draw a picture to show your reasoning. How many cube blocks would you need to fill the inside of the castle walls?
- You want to go to your friend's house to swim on Friday afternoon, but you still have some lessons to complete. If you want to leave 2 hours early from your Friday lessons, how will you make up the time Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday? Explain your reasoning.

### **Box 4 (Enrichment)**

- Discuss a time when you tried to speak up for yourself and it didn't work out. What happened? What can you do in the future to make sure that your ideas get heard?
- Describe a time when you successfully negotiated with someone. What was it that made your negotiation successful? Compare it to time when you weren't successful.

### **Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)**

- Do you have a bedtime? Are you ever allowed to stay up past your bedtime? Why do you think grown-ups believe that a bedtime is important? Do you agree or disagree? State your case.