

**Grades: 4-5**

**Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum**  
**“I am Issac Newton / I am Golda Meir”**

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 Isaac Newton Xavier tries mini golf for the first time, and things don't exactly go as planned. No matter how hard and fast he swings, the ball never goes in the hole... To the Secret Museum! Our trio are sent back in time to meet an expert in the laws of motion: Sir Isaac Newton. Isaac is in the middle of his own problem, trying to figure out how he can out jump boys who are clearly bigger than him. Instead of attacking the problem hard and fast, Xavier style, Isaac takes a much calmer approach with the use of a thinking tree and a thinking kite. When he finally solves his problem and wins the long jump competition, Xavier realizes how much better it is to slow down and think through problems. I am Golda Meir When Yadina finds turtles crossing the bike path in the park, she becomes very worried about them - what if they get hit by a bike? Or a trike? She wants to help them stay safe, but what can she do? This problem seems way too big for her. To the Secret Museum! Our heroes go back in time to meet an expert problem solver: Golda Meir. They find Golda in the midst of a big problem herself: a bunch of the kids at her school don't have access to the books they need! This is another toughie. But Golda, undaunted, comes up with the idea to hold a community fundraiser to get money for the books, showing Yadina that she should tell people when there's a problem so you can solve it together.

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

**Question Box 1**

Isaac Newton:

- Contrast the difference in Xavier and Brad's golf techniques.
- Who do the kids go back to see? when? where?
- When the kids arrive back in time, what is Isaac Newton preparing for? What does he do? What does he do to solve his problem?
- Describe how a windmill works. What questions does Isaac have after observing the windmill?
- What does Isaac Newton discover using the actions of the windmill? How does he apply this new knowledge to the long jumping contents?
- What lesson does Xavier learn from Isaac Newton?

#### Golda Meir

- When and where was Golda Meir born?
- What did she grow up to become? What are the responsibilities of this job?
- When the kids arrive back in time, what problem is Golda Meir trying to solve? and for whom?
- List the possible solutions the kids brainstorm.
- How does Golda Meir plan to solve the problem?
- Describe the sequence of events that Golda goes through to solve the problem.
- How is Yadina similar to Golda Meir?

### Question Box 2

- How much did you know about the subject before we started? Explain.
- How do you feel about this program? What parts of it do you particularly like?
- How much did you know about the subject before the show started?
- How do you feel about this TV show?
- What parts of it do you particularly like? Dislike? Why?
- What did/do you enjoy about this program?
- What is one thing you particularly want people to notice when they watch this TV program?
- Think about yourself. Do you stop and think before jumping in?
- Golda Meir liked to solve problems, how is solving problems similar to taking the time to stop and think?
- Why is a plan of action useful when trying to solve a problem?
- Contrast the ways that kids learn in the past to ways you learn today?
- List the ways you can access information if you don't have a textbook?

### Box 3 (Tasks)

- Create a storyboard of the show.
- Summarize the ideas for which Isaac Newton is credited for?
- Learn more about [Isaac Newton](#) and his ideas presented in the Secret Museum.
- Research more about Isaac Newton. What did you learn?
- Research more about Golda Meir. What did you find?
- Write a picture book for a younger student that explains what were the contributions to

society made by Golda Meir or Isaac Newton?

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

- Talk about a time when you sat and thought through a problem. How did it go?
- Talk about something you're good at. Were you always good at it? How did you get better?
- What's a problem at your school or community? Work with a friend to come up with a solution.
- Visit the BrainPop choice board and select from the activities provided for [Isaac Newton](#).

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

- Research what it takes to pursue a career as a Scientist. What opportunities are there? What kind of education do you need? <https://money.howstuffworks.com/how-to-become-a-scientist.htm>
- Research what it takes to become a politician. What skills and education do you need? <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/how-to-become-a-politician>
- [Gravity Activity](#)
- [Rainbow Activity](#)
- [Sunrise and Sunset Activity](#)