

**Grades: 4-5**

**Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum,**  
**“I am Lou Gehrig/ I am Marie Owens”**

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.

In I am Lou Gehrig, Xavier, Yadina, and Brad are having the worst day ever. Xavier’s hoodie has a hole in it, Yadina and Dr. Zoom won’t speak to each other, and Brad’s favorite crayon broke. To the Secret Museum! The kids go back in time to meet Lou Gehrig, who teaches them to focus on the good stuff.

Later in I am Marie Owens , Marie shows Xavier, Yadina and Brad how to solve problems in a positive way.

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

**Question Box 1**

- What is the author trying to say through the TV program? What from the text makes you believe this?
- What evidence does the TV show director give to support his or her central idea?
- What is this program “saying”? Cite evidence to support your analysis.
- What is your opinion about the program? What evidence do you have to support your opinion?

Lou Gehrig:

- [Click here](#) to read more about Lou Gehrig
- What problem is Brad having that he wants to solve?
- How do the kids travel to the past to meet Lou Gehrig?
- Who is Lou Gehrig? What is he famous for?
- What position did Lou Gehrig play? How many seasons did he play? What does Lou Gehrig say that allows you to calculate the number of years played?
- What background information is provided to you about Lou Gehrig in this episode?
- What does Brad learn in this episode?

Marie Owens:

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- Who was Marie Owens? What was her job?
- Why was Marie Owens' work important?
- What problem is Marie Owens trying to solve?
- What does Brad learn from Marie Owens?
- How does Brad solve his problem in a positive way after meeting both Lou Gehrig and Marie Owens?

### **Question Box 2**

- Now that it's over, what are my first thoughts about this program? Explain?
- What is the most important thing I learned personally?
- What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while watching this program?
- What were some of my most powerful learning moments in the program and what made them so?

Lou Gehrig/Marie Owens:

- How do you think Lou Gehrig's attitude of "solving problems in a positive way" helped him throughout his life?
- How do you think solving problems in positive ways helped Marie Owens?
- Think of a problem that you had that could have been solved in a positive way.

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

- Create a storyboard of the show.
- Research more about Lou Gehrig. What did you learn?
- Research more about Marie Owens. What did you find?
- Brad's favorite crayon broke. If it was from the box of eight crayons, what fraction of the crayons was this crayon? If it was from the box of 16 crayons, what fraction of the crayons was his favorite? Explain how one crayon could represent two different fractions.
- If Xavier, Brad, Yadina and Dr. Zoom each give one other a handshake, how many handshakes will there be? When two people shake each other's hand, it counts as one handshake.
- Compare and Contrast the ways that both Lou Gehrig and Marie Owens solve problems in positive ways.

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

- Lou Gehrig said to focus on the good stuff. What's some of the good stuff to happen in your life during the stay at home order?
- Check out Lou Gehrig's speech here: <https://baseballhall.org/discover-more/stories/baseball-history/lou-gehrig-luckiest-man>. Discuss a time when you caught a bad break. How did you handle it? Knowing Lou Gehrig's story, how will you handle

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bad breaks you catch in the future?

- Marie Owens shows the group how to solve problems in a positive way. How do you solve problems in a positive way?

Lou Gehrig: Make your own baseball cards:

- [3 Ways to Make Your Own Trading Cards](#)
- Make a baseball card for 3 baseball players (past and present), one of your cards must be Lou Gehrig.
- Compare and Contrast the three players.
- Summarize the attributes each possess that helped that to be successful in life.

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

- Both Lou Gehrig and Marie Owens solved problems and encouraged others. Make an appreciation or encouragement card for someone you know.