

# Fourth Grade

## I'm a Jewish Texan

### Description:

Students have written a research paper on an influential figure from the Texas Revolution. From that, they will be crafting a monologue which will incorporate learning about their figure in the Texas Revolution and the characteristics which helped to build their identity. In addition, these monologues will utilize the learning they have done through novels throughout the year - *Wonder*, *Sylvia* and *Aki, Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life*, and especially *Milkweed*. Each of these novels touched on the theme of identity in developing their character. In Jewish studies, the study of *Milkweed* also launched a project where students created an artifact from the novel to represent a foundational element of a character's identity using materials from our Makerspace. Along the same lines, students heard stories from Jewish Texans about this unique intersection of the two identities and are creating an art piece to showcase their understanding of their own personal identities, which will be on display along with their *Milkweed* artifacts and research papers.



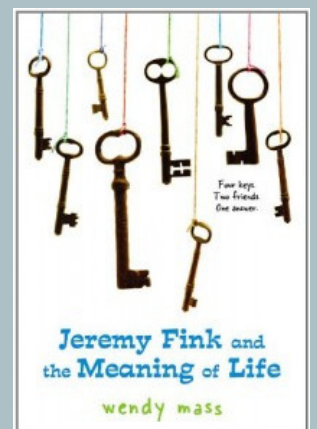
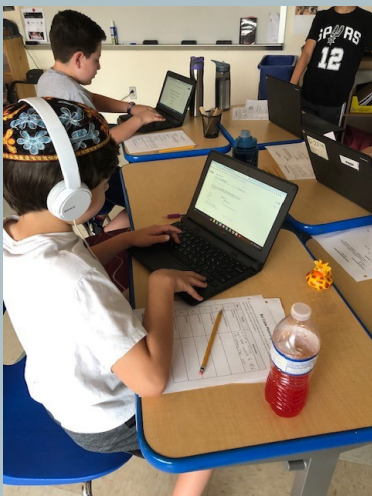
### Deliverables/products:

"I am a Jewish Texan..." Monologue

Identity Plates

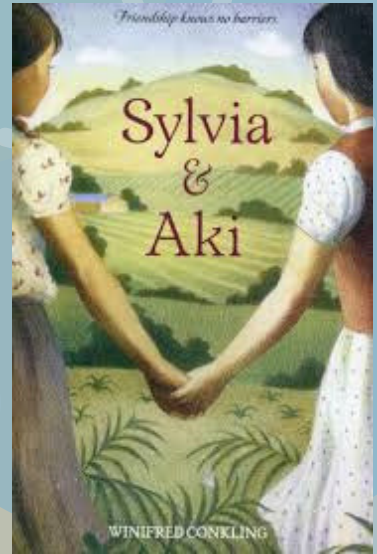
Milkweed MakerSpace Creation

Texas Revolution Character Biographies



### Learning goals:

1. Students will speak about early Texans including colonists and influential figures in the Texas Revolution. What characteristics of these figures' identity contributed to their legacy within the narrative of Texas history?
2. Students will understand what life was like in the Warsaw Ghetto for children and families. What characteristics of our ancestors helped them to overcome the challenges of our collective history?
3. Students will connect their own character traits with those who have come before them both as Jews and as Texans.
4. Students will hear stories of several Jewish Texans to see commonalities between the lives of Jews and Texans from across history and consider their own identities in the context of the larger Jewish Texan community.



### Essential questions:

- How do our experiences shape our identities?
- What events in Jewish history shaped the identities of the characters in Milkweed?
- How can artifacts represent someone's identity?
- How does being a Jewish Texan shape our identities today?
- How did the events in Texas history shape the identities of those involved in the battle?

