

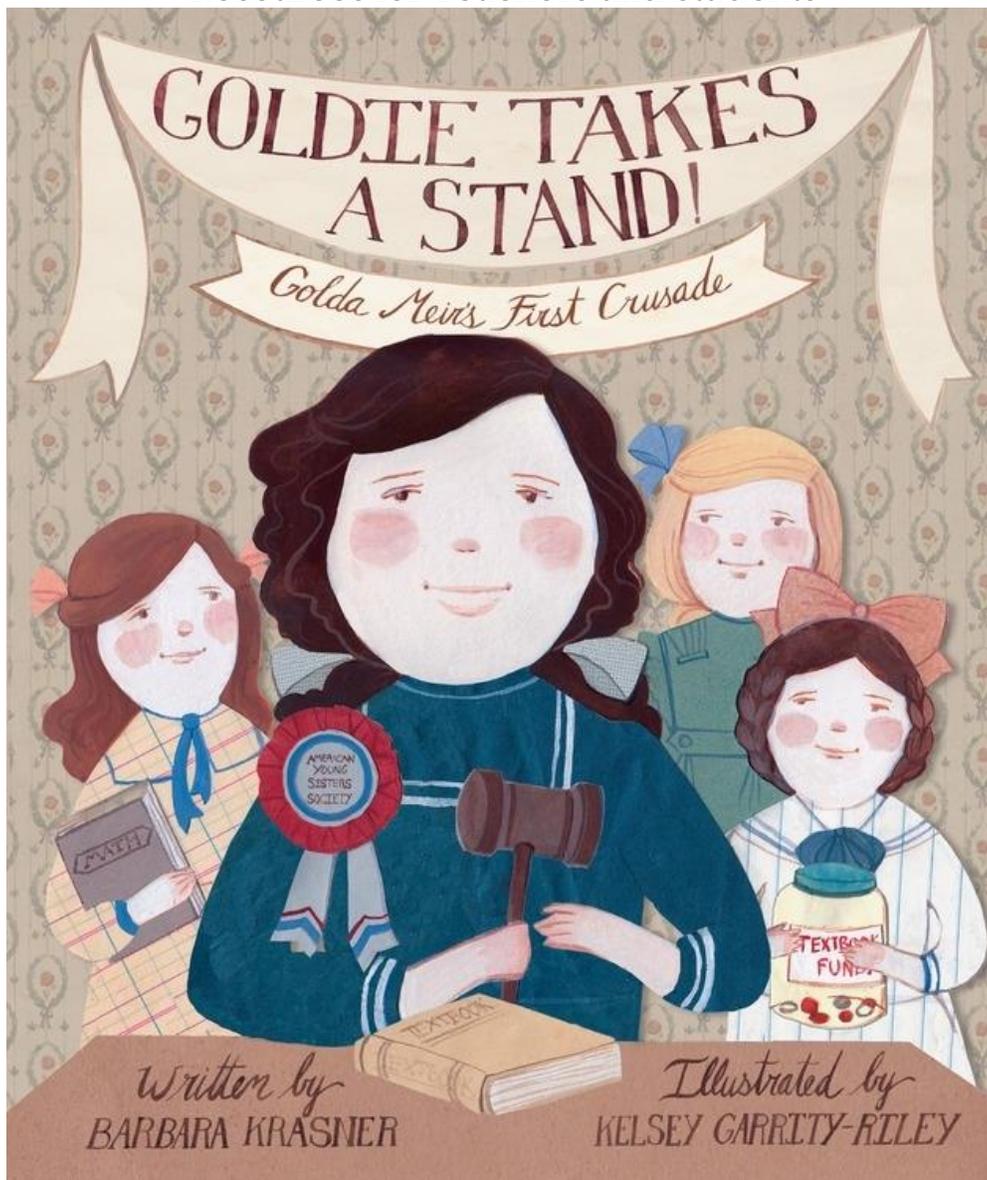
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Resources for Teachers and Students



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eSource by **Barbara Krasner**

About the Author



Barbara Krasner likes writing about history – local, American, and world history, but especially Jewish-themed history. She publishes the popular blog, *The Whole Megillah: The Writer's Resource for Jewish-Themed Story*. She runs workshops and conferences for Jewish writers at the Highlights Foundation and in conjunction with the Association of Jewish Libraries. Barbara has a B.A. in German from Douglass College, an M.B.A. in Marketing from the Rutgers Business School and an M.F.A. in Writing for Children & Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts. *Goldie Takes a Stand* is her first children's book.

About the Illustrator

Kelsey Garrity-Riley was born in Germany and grew up in Germany and Belgium before moving to the United States to pursue her interest in art. She received a B.F.A. from Savannah College of Art and Design and continues to live in Savannah, where she shares a studio with her husband. She draws inspiration from the old objects she collects, from her travels in Europe, and from daily life in the South. She works in a mix of gouache and collage with digital finishing.

Summary and Context

In *Goldie Takes a Stand! Golda Meir's First Crusade*, it is the turn of the twentieth century in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Nine-year-old Goldie Mabowehz, a Jewish immigrant from Russia, organizes a group of girls into the American Young Sisters Society and, naturally, appointed herself president. Their goal? To raise money so all their classmates had textbooks for school. Goldie announces each girl must contribute three cents a week, the price of a loaf of bread, and even she doesn't know where she'll get the money. She works in her mother's grocery and overcharges customers, telling them about her cause. She gives up her candy money. But she still doesn't have enough and the other girls don't have the money either. Goldie then decides to think bigger, to hold a fundraising gala and she convinces the manager of Packer Hall to let her society use the auditorium for her event. She tries to write a speech, but the words won't come. Worse, when she peeks out from behind the curtain on stage, hardly anyone is there. But slowly people enter the auditorium and Goldie speaks from her heart. The society raises the money it needs.

Based on a True Story

In her autobiography *My Story*, Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir wrote about this fundraising event, which was reported in the September 2, 1909 issue of the *Milwaukee Journal*. While the dialogue and some of Goldie's actions are imagined, Golda Meir did indeed organize a group of girls to raise money for school textbooks. It was the first time she gave a speech and she never again wrote one down.

Common Core Standards addressed by the activities included in this guide include:
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.7; RL3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7; RL4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 2.7; RI3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.7; RI4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5

Before Reading Activities

Before reading *Goldie Takes a Stand! Golda Meir's First Crusade*, study the cover, and using two of the vocabulary words below (all words found in the text of the book), predict what happens in one sentence. After reading *Goldie Takes a Stand! Golda Meir's First Crusade*, see how close your prediction was.

girls
society
immigrants
textbooks

money
fundraising
gala
speech

poverty
education
coins
collection

This is what I think will happen in *Goldie Takes a Stand! Golda Meir's First Crusade*:

Exploring Leadership:

What does it mean to be a leader? Think about someone from your own life or from history whom you admire for leadership. What did that person do to demonstrate he or she was a leader? What would you have done in a similar situation?

Exploring Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World)

What does it mean to repair the world? Think about someone from your own life or from history whom you admire for making the world a better place for others. What actions did this person take? What might you have done if facing a similar situation?

Prior Knowledge:

Goldie Takes a Stand! Golda Meir's First Crusade takes place in the early 1900s in Milwaukee. Fill out the chart below, listing what you already know and what you would like to learn about this time period in American history.

I know...	I would like to know...

After Reading Activities

What ideas did Goldie have and what actions did she take to be able to contribute her own dues to the society?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

How do the illustrations tell you about where and when the story takes place?

What specific words describe who Goldie is?

The members of the American Young Sisters Society make posters to get people to come to their fundraiser. Use the box below to draw your own poster for the event.



How did Goldie show leadership? What actions did she take? What words in the text show you she's a leader? What would you have done in her situation?

What did Goldie and her society do to make the world better? Whom did they help? What would you have done in the same situation? What can you do to help others? What can you specifically do to help immigrants?

Why do you think Goldie had a hard time writing her speech? Have you ever had a give a speech? What did you do?

Goldie's Plan

Arrange the following events in the book in the proper order:

1. ____	a. Goldie works in her mother's store
2. ____	b. Goldie convinces the Packer Hall manager to donate the hall to her cause
3. ____	c. Goldie holds the first meeting of the American Young Sisters Society
4. ____	d. Goldie gives a speech
5. ____	e. Goldie and her friends make invitations and posters for the fundraiser

Map Skills

Goldie and her family left their home in Pinsk, Russia (now Belarus) and traveled by land to Vienna, Austria and then to Antwerp, Belgium. Then they boarded a ship to New York City. From there, they traveled to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Using a map, draw a line to show Goldie's journey.