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Dear Librarian,

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the greatest scientists who ever lived. He invented calculus, figured out the composition of light, and determined the laws of gravity and motion. His rules about how objects move were so accurate that—more than 300 years later—they are still being used to launch rockets and understand space travel.

But research is uncovering a Newton no one ever knew existed. The study of Newton's own personal papers, many written in secret code, is bringing to light an intense, private man for whom religion and science were inseparable. Historians now know that Newton owned more than 30 Bibles, and that he used alchemy as an avenue to study the nature of matter. On November 15, tune into NOVA's "Newton's Dark Secrets" to discover a complete picture of this enigmatic man—his science, his personal beliefs, and the times in which he lived.

With generous support from the National Science Foundation, we've produced this library resource kit to accompany the program. The kit, which has been reviewed by a national board of public librarians, has been designed for libraries of all sizes and visitors of all ages. Use the display sheets to illuminate Newton's work in gravity, light, and alchemy; conduct the activities to provide children with the sense of wonder Newton felt about the natural world; and engage visitors with handouts that offer doorways into Newton's life and the science that excited him.

We hope you will use this library kit to create science programming that helps your community gain insight into who Newton really was and how his science changed our view of the world. We would love to hear how this kit works for you; please send your comments to [NOVA\\_librarykits@wgbh.org](mailto:NOVA_librarykits@wgbh.org). Your feedback will help ensure that future projects like this one are interesting and useful to all librarians.



Paula S. Apsell  
NOVA Executive Producer

Produced for PBS by the  
WGBH Science Unit  
125 Western Avenue  
Boston  
Massachusetts  
02134

Telephone 617-300-4340  
Fax 617-300-1003  
[www.pbs.org/nova](http://www.pbs.org/nova)

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### Director, Educational Outreach

Karen Barss

### Manager, Educational Content

Sonja Latimore

### Editorial Project Director

Karen Hartley

### Assistant Editor

Joan Pedersen

### Writer

Margy Kuntz

### Designers

Peter Lyons

Rusha Sopariwala

### Photo Researcher

Debby Paddock

### Illustrator

Hannah Bonner

### Print Production

Lenore Gibson

### Advisory Board

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