

Materials:

- The book "Pax" by Sara Pennypacker
- Paper
- Drawing supplies (crayons, markers, colored pencils)
- Optional: A simple map (can be hand-drawn or printed)

Introduction: Remembering Pax and Peter (10 mins)

Let's talk about the book "Pax"! Remember Peter and his special friend, Pax the fox? What big event was happening in the story that made Peter have to leave Pax? (Guide towards the war). Even though the story doesn't tell us exactly *which* war, we know it was a difficult time that changed everything for Peter and Pax.

Activity 1: Feelings During Hard Times (15 mins)

Think about when Peter had to leave Pax by the side of the road. How do you think Peter felt? (Sad, scared, worried, maybe angry?). How do you think Pax felt? (Confused, scared, lonely, abandoned?). On your paper, draw two pictures: one showing how Peter might have felt, and one showing how Pax might have felt. Label the feelings. Wars and other big conflicts in history often make people and animals feel these strong, difficult emotions because they get separated from the people and places they love.

Activity 2: Why Did They Separate? Understanding Displacement (15 mins)

Why did Peter *have* to leave Pax? (Because his dad was going to war, and Peter had to go live with his grandfather far away). The war forced them apart. When people have to leave their homes because of danger, like a war, it's called 'displacement'. They become 'displaced'. It's like being moved from the only place you know. (Optional Map Activity: Look at a map. Imagine living in one town. If danger came, you might have to suddenly pack up and move somewhere else, leaving friends and familiar places behind. That's displacement.) Can you think of why this would be hard?

Activity 3: Finding Help and Showing Kindness (15 mins)

Even though Peter and Pax were separated and faced challenges, did they find any help? (Yes! Peter met Vola, Pax met other foxes like Bristle and Runt). In real history, during difficult times like wars, people often need help too. Sometimes neighbors help each other, sometimes strangers show kindness. Think about Vola – how did she help Peter? How did the other foxes help Pax learn to survive? Why is it important to help others who are going through hard times? Let's brainstorm ways we can show kindness to someone who looks sad or lonely.

Conclusion: Learning from Pax (5 mins)

"Pax" is a story, but it helps us think about real things. We learned that conflicts like wars cause big feelings like sadness and fear, force people and animals to leave their homes (displacement), and separate loved ones. We also saw how important kindness and helping each other can be, just like Vola helped Peter and the foxes helped Pax. Thinking about stories like this helps us understand history and have empathy for others.