Book 1

Pax and Zen

by Angela Baéz • illustrated by Josh Floyd

Katie Clements and Elizabeth Franco, Series Editors

For sample use on

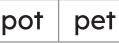
hein.pub/MoonlitMountainRead

or more information

WARM UP

Activate phonics knowledge by coaching readers to decode words in isolation.

"Sound out the words and read them!"



```
man r
```

men

```
big b
```

beg

INTRODUCE THE BOOK

Share a gist of the story and highlight any story words.

"I'm so excited to introduce you to the first book in a new series about two friends named Pax and Zen." Show the cover and the title. "Read the title with me. It is called *Pax and Zen.*" Point to the creature holding the rock. "This is Pax. She loves to collect treasure." Point to the creature wearing glasses. "This is Zen. He loves to dig. They make a perfect pair! In this story, Pax and Zen are in the cave doing what they love best, hunting and digging for treasure." Turn to page 3 and point to the word *treasure*. "This is the word *treasure*. Read it with me, *treasure*."

Invite readers to preview the text. Then, coach them as they read independently.

"Let's take a sneak peek to think about what might happen." Study the cover, read the back blurb, and flip through the first few pages. Invite readers to say what they notice and to share ideas or predictions about the story. "You're noticing Zen is digging and Pax is looking at something. Could it be the treasure? Let's read and find out!" Distribute copies of the text. Then, listen in and coach as needed.

TALK ABOUT THE BOOK

After reading, engage in a conversation to support text-based comprehension. Invite readers to share ideas and use supporting details from the text.

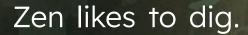
Ask questions like:

- What happened in the story? Retell the beginning, middle, and end.
- What do Pax and Zen like to do?
- At the end of the story, the friends find something. What is it?
- How do you think Pax and Zen feel at the end? What makes you think that?

This is Pax.

This is Zen. Zen is Pax's pal.





3

Yes!

Pax likes to pick up treasure.

Yes!



Zen jets to Pax and digs, digs, digs in to the wet muck.

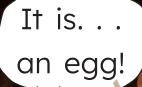
I bet this is a BIG treasure!

nein.pub/MoonlitMountainReaders for more information

In a bit, Zen pops back up.



Pax looks in.



For sample use only. Please sit hein.pub/MoonlitMountainReaders for more information.

8

Letter-Sound Correspondences

- m, t, n, s, p, d, g, c, k, r, ǎ, h, b, f, l, z, ǐ, j, w, y, x, qu, ǒ, ǔ, ě
- ck, tt, nn, ss, dd, ff, ll, zz
- -s

High-Frequency Words

me, a, the, I, like, my, look, see, here, is, this, to, do, we, be, was, went, she, he

Moonlit Mountain Readers RWPN, LLC P.O. Box 26561 Prescott Valley, AZ 86312

Copyright © 2025

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except as permitted by U.S. copyright law.

Cataloging-in-Publication data is on file with the Library of Congress. ISBN-13: 9798202133107 (paperback)





Pax and Zen dig and dig. Look! Is it treasure?

CVC Words, Series 3

- 1 Pax and Zen
- 2 The Egg
- 3 Hatching
- 4 The Baby
- 5 Red
- 6 The Quest is On!
- 7 Red is Sick
- 8 Home

short E

