

**Title:** The Enemy: A Book about Peace

**Author:** Davide Cali

**Grade Level:** 5-8

**Category:** Picture Book

**Synopsis:** There are two holes on a battlefield and each hole contains a soldier. They are enemies and by the end of the story they discover that they are very similar.

**Thematic/Curriculum Connections :** War, Peace, Courage, Point of View

**Activities:**

Describe what an enemy is.

Draw a map of the battlefield and each soldier's hole.

Describe what's in that hole. Describe each soldier.

Every page in this book would be a great starting point for a story or drama piece:

*“Except for hunger, the enemy and I have nothing in common. He is a wild beast. He does not know mercy. I know this because I read it in my manual.”*

Ask the students to create a manual for the soldier.

*“At last I reach the enemy's hole – but no one is here. His things are here...”*

Describe what the soldier might find in the enemy's hole.

The soldier found pictures of the enemy's family. *“I wasn't expecting him to have a family.”* –Why would the soldier say this?

**Project:** Ask the students to put a package together of things a family might send to one of their loved ones who is a soldier at war. If you choose a specific war, like WWI, the students would have to take into account that certain things weren't yet invented then, so their “care package” couldn't include ipods or Gatorade! But it could include photos, chocolate, a letter etc. Have them prepare it for mailing.

# tinlids

*“I hope my bottle falls in his hole”* - what did the soldier write on his handkerchief? What do you think the enemy wrote on his handkerchief? Ask the students to write two different notes and label each one “Soldier/ enemy”. Collect all of the notes, mix them up and read them out loud alternating between enemy and soldier.

Rewrite this picture book using two different characters who are “enemies”.

- They could be older, younger, different genders or animals – use your imagination.
- Choose a different setting.
- Don’t forget to answer Who, What, When, Where and Why.

Rewrite the story as a newspaper article.

## **Other book connections:**

- Tusk Tusk by David McKee
- Walking to School by Eve Bunting
- Enemy Pie by Derek Munson