

Time for Kids

4

MAY 18, 2020

TIME EDGE

A baseball player
in South Korea
warms up on
opening day,
May 6.

PLAY BALL

Baseball returns in
South Korea, zoos in
the U.S. go virtual,
and more!

timeedge.com

> FROM THE EDITOR

DEAR READERS,

This spring, the TIME for Kids team started something new—TIME Edge e-readers. Normally, we wouldn't be publishing at this point in the school year. But this year is anything but normal! And we have so many more great stories to share. So we're going to continue producing these digital magazines during the summer. We're using some space in these issues to experiment and try new things. For example, on pages 10 and 11, you can read letters from other kids who are adjusting to life away from school and friends. And be sure to check out our deep dive on the history of pandemics. What else would you like to see? Or do you have a story you want to share?

Write to us at tfkeditors@time.com.

Finally, have you ever dreamed of becoming a reporter? Enter the TFK Kid Reporter Contest! Our editors will choose a group of talented students as Kid Reporters for the 2020–2021 school year. Ask a parent, guardian, or teacher for details. Learn more at timeforkids.com/2020-kid-reporter-contest.

All the best,


Andrea Delbanco
EDITOR IN CHIEF



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INSPIRE US!

Do you know an amazing kid who is making an impact on the world and could become the Kid of the Year?

In March, Nickelodeon and TFK announced the first-ever Kid of the Year television special. The hour-long show will be hosted by comedian Trevor Noah and will air on Nickelodeon and CBS on December 5. It will feature five young leaders who are making a positive difference in their community. One will be named the Kid of the Year.

We need your help! We begin accepting nominations on May 18. Ask your teacher or a parent to help you submit the name of someone you think we need to know about. Find details at kidoftheyear2020.com.



BACK TO BUSINESS A man shops on the first day of the reopening of a market in Athens, Georgia, on May 9.

SLOW REOPENING

By Brian S. McGrath

Around the world, people are returning to public places—cautiously.

The coronavirus pandemic has had an enormous impact on our society. It has affected the health of people around the world, and it has devastated the global economy. Many businesses and public places are closed, and millions of people have lost jobs. People are eager to return to their regular activities.

World leaders, especially in countries where COVID-19 struck earlier than in the United States, are taking the first steps toward reopening. But that doesn't mean life will go back to normal right away. Social-distancing rules will remain in place, and leaders will be paying close attention to the number of new COVID-19 cases. Many worry that reopening will lead to a new wave of infections.

"There is no fast way back to normal," says Dr. Hans Kluge, a director for the World Health Organization (WHO). Kluge and other health experts say reopening businesses and restarting public life must be done very carefully.

The WHO recommends that countries meet six conditions before restrictions are lifted, one of

which is finding ways to prevent the virus from spreading in workplaces and schools. Another condition is to make sure hospitals are prepared to test for and trace cases of COVID-19. The WHO says following these guidelines can help save lives and the economy.

In the U.S., some governors have begun loosening restrictions in their states. In Florida, Texas, and Nevada, businesses such as restaurants are reopening, and in Georgia, some people are even headed back to the beach. "It seems like a lot of people are kind of excited to finally get out and get some sun," says beachgoer Riley Monaghan. Even so, he's following health guidelines. "Be cautious," he says. "Keep the distance. That's still important."

In the parts of the country hit hardest by COVID-19, stay-at-home orders are still in place. Some states have even extended them. And in 48 states, it's recommended that schools stay closed for the rest of the school year.

Students in some parts of the world have returned to class. Children in Sydney, Australia, went back on May 11, and some younger kids in France returned later that week. In Beijing, China, more than 82,000 students are back in school to prepare for high school entrance exams.



To raise money during the COVID-19 pandemic, zoos and aquariums are going digital.

Zoos and aquariums around the world are closed to slow the spread of COVID-19. Without the money they usually bring in from ticket sales, many are struggling financially.

So some of these institutions are turning to the Internet. They're finding new ways to raise money while letting people connect with animals from home.

CELEBRITY SLOTH

The Phoenix Zoo, in Arizona, houses a 4-year-old Linné's two-toed sloth. His name is Fernando. After the zoo shut down, on March 18, it added Fernando to Cameo, a video-sharing website where people pay for celebrity shout-outs. In this case, Fernando is the celebrity. Zookeepers record videos of him in his habitat while someone reads a personalized note for a Cameo customer.

"I think we've gotten more creative, kind of thinking a little bit outside the box. We're trying things we never have before," says Bert Castro, the president and CEO of the Phoenix Zoo.

So far, Fernando has gotten more than 150 video requests. He's so popular that the zoo was able to raise his fee from \$25 to \$50 per shout-out.

Still, Fernando's earnings are just a drop in the bucket. Before the pandemic, the Phoenix Zoo brought in \$1 million a month. But since closing its

gates, it has been losing \$80,000 a day.

"They can't just send their employees home and turn off the lights and lock the doors. They have to care for animals," Dan Ashe says. He's president and CEO of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

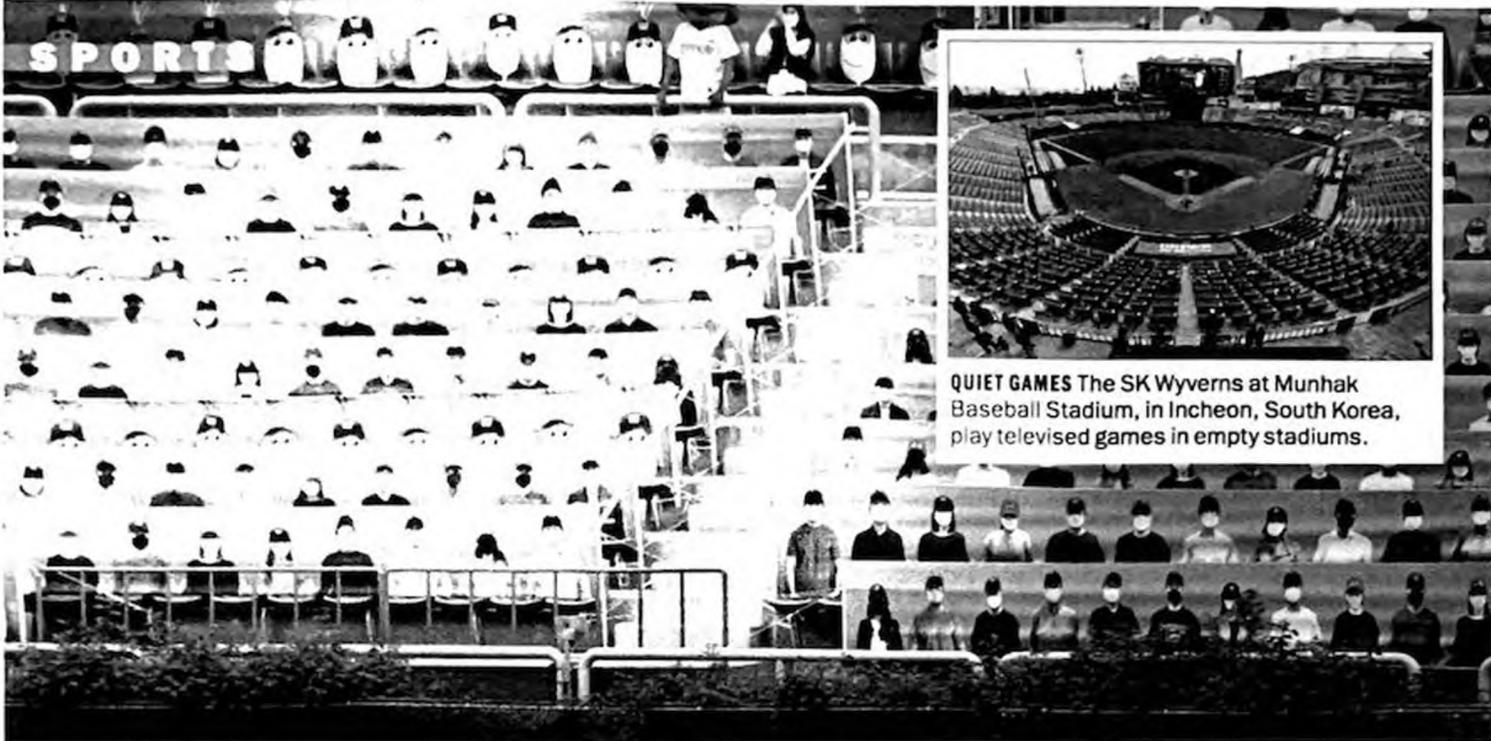
MAKING ENDS MEET

At press time, all 220 zoos and aquariums belonging to the AZA had closed because of the pandemic, and about 60% of them had laid off or furloughed employees. Many have applied for government loans. Social media can't replace all of the zoos' lost income. But officials say every dollar helps.

The Phoenix Zoo isn't alone in finding creative ways to make money. The Oakland Zoo, in California, launched an online subscription model, featuring behind-the-scenes videos. And the Monterey Bay Aquarium, also in California, has filmed its own meditation videos for YouTube, featuring the relaxing sights and sounds of ocean creatures.

Officials at the Toronto Zoo, in Canada, say livestreaming happenings such as red panda weigh-ins can help inform people about the zoo's programming while educating them about lesser-known animals. "It's an opportunity to highlight species that often don't get high-profiled," CEO Dolf DeJong says. "For us, it's being able to talk about Blanding's turtles, an endangered species from our community that we're breeding."

—By Shay Maunz



EMPTY STADIUMS

Baseball returns to South Korea, with some new COVID-19 safety rules.

Professional baseball players in South Korea returned to the field on May 5, after a weeks-long delay because of the coronavirus pandemic. This opening day was unusual—and quiet. That's because no fans were allowed into the stadiums. They will not be permitted to return until the risk of infection is lower.

"The players just really wanted to play baseball," says Kim Hyun-soo, an outfielder for the LG Twins. "We are delighted to do just that."

In early May, the South Korean government began loosening social-distancing rules. But measures are in place to create safe conditions on the baseball field. Players go through a fever screening before entering the stadium and cannot sign autographs. They are also not allowed to high-five teammates with bare hands. Umpires and some coaches wear protective masks.

At the opening-day game for the KT Wiz of Suwon-si, a 9-year-old boy "threw" the ceremonial first pitch. Inside a plastic bubble made to look like a baseball, he walked from the pitcher's mound to home plate. The batter gently tapped the bubble with his bat.

With no fans around, teams got creative. The SK Wyverns decked the outfield seats with banners that showed people wearing team gear. The team still lost to the Eagles, 3-0.

A few fans couldn't keep away. Cho Ki-hyun celebrated his team's return from outside the

stadium, watching the game on a tablet. "I am delighted just to hear the sounds of a baseball game from outside," he told the Associated Press.

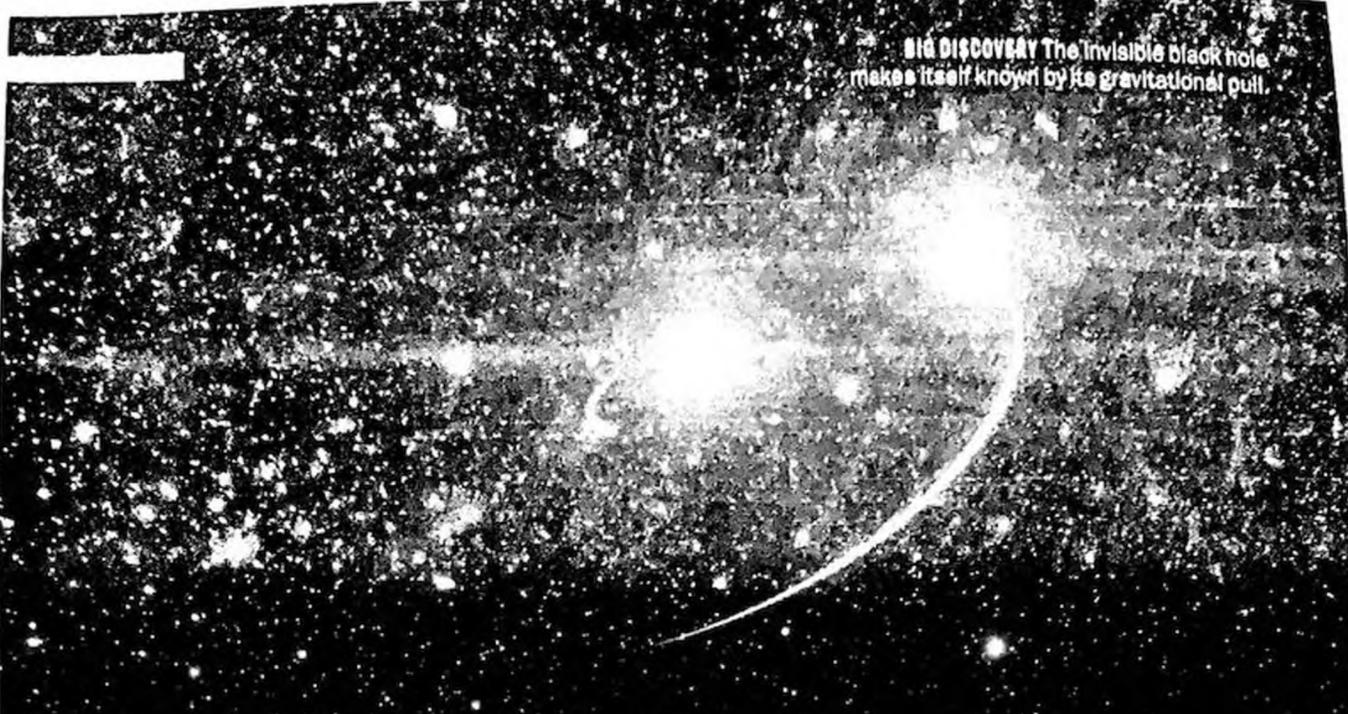
"It would have been better if [fans] could be with us," Na Sung-bum, outfielder with the NC Dinos says. "But I am glad that we delivered something good to fans watching TV."

The games have aired on ESPN in the United States, aimed at people who miss American baseball. The 2020 Major League Baseball season remains delayed because of the pandemic. In April, league commissioner Rob Manfred talked to Fox Business. He said baseball won't return "until the public health situation is improved [and] we can play games in a manner that is safe for our players, our employees, our fans."

Until then, some American fans are finding the Korean games to be a welcome substitute. "It was also fun to learn about baseball in another culture," Jeremy Shermak, a professor from California, told NBC News. "There are differences. But in the end, it is still the game that is so familiar that we love."

The Korean Baseball Organization is planning to hold its full 144-game schedule. That is, unless the coronavirus forces another suspension. When the current season resumed on May 5, South Korea was seeing only single-digit increases in COVID-19 cases each day. Within a week, the country saw a spike of more than a hundred new cases. This has led to fears of a new outbreak.

—By Constance Gibbs



Big DISCOVERY The invisible black hole makes itself known by its gravitational pull.

NEW BLACK HOLE

Scientists have found a black hole that's closer to Earth than any previously discovered. And there could be closer ones.

The European Southern Observatory (ESO) announced on May 6 that astronomers have found a black hole that's closer to Earth than any yet discovered. The object is about 1,000 light-years away, close enough that the two stars nearest to it can be seen without a telescope.

"An invisible object with a mass at least four times that of the sun can only be a black hole," Thomas Rivinius said in a statement. He led the research, which was published in the journal *Astronomy & Astrophysics*.

A thousand light-years may not seem close. A light-year is about 5.9 trillion miles. But in terms of our galaxy, this object is in the neighborhood. It resides in a constellation called Telescopium, which is close enough to our solar system that its stars can be seen without binoculars from Earth's southern hemisphere. The next-closest black hole is about three times as far away, some 3,200 light-years from Earth.

Black holes are usually the result of stars that have burned out. They are so massive that they have a strong gravitational pull. Nothing can escape this pull, not even light. That's why we can't see them. Scientists can only spot black holes because of the objects around them. So far, astronomers have spotted about two dozen black holes in our galaxy.

The ESO astronomers noticed the stars around the black hole using a telescope at the La Silla Observatory, in Chile. The scientists were studying a two-star system called HR 6819. They watched the system for months, mapping the stars' orbits. The way the stars moved told them something else was there.

Rivinius says these stars are three times hotter than our sun, at 26,000°F. But compared to our 4.6 billion-year-old sun, they're young—about 140 million years old.

The newly discovered black hole probably began forming 15 million years ago. Compared with other black holes, this one is small, about 25 miles across. "Washington, D.C., would quite easily fit into [it]," says astronomer Dietrich Baade, a coauthor of the study. "And once it went in, it would never come back."

Rivinius says the discovery of the black hole is the "tip of an exciting iceberg." It could help astronomers learn more about a potential second system, similar to HR 6819, called LB-1. It also opens up the possibility that there are more of black holes near Earth.

Other astronomers agree. There could be 100 million to 1 billion of these objects in our galaxy. "It is most likely that there are black holes much closer than this one," says Avi Loeb, the director of Harvard University's Black Hole Initiative. "If you find an ant while scanning a tiny fraction of your kitchen, you know there must be many more out there."

—By Karena Phan

SUNSET FUN
In August 2019, former campers enjoy a reunion at Camp Thunderbird for Girls, in Bemidji, Minnesota.



CAMP CONCERNS

Summer camps across the United States face tough decisions this year because of COVID-19.

About 20 million children in the United States go to summer camp every year, according to the American Camp Association (ACA). They look forward to sitting around the campfire, learning outdoor skills, and spending time with friends.

But with social-distancing rules in effect across the U.S., many summer camps face tough decisions. Can they safely welcome campers this year? Do they need to close for the season? Or should they change how they carry out their programs?

"Most camps are not asking if they're going to open, but how they're going to open," says Tom Rosenberg, president and CEO of the ACA. Rosenberg says that many camps are waiting on guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and that they're also taking advice from state and local health departments.

Beth Bye is the commissioner of the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood. On May 5, she announced that the state's summer camps could open on June 29. But strict health guidelines will need to be in place. Most programs will not be allowed to have more than 30 kids.

Bye added that she believes camps are important for both kids and working parents. Without summer camps, working parents have to find other methods of childcare during the summer.

"For many families," she told the *New York Times*, "summer camp is their childcare."

In other parts of the country, some camps have already decided they must close for the summer. One is Camp Kiwanis, located in Marion County, Florida, which has new cases of COVID-19 every day. Usually, the 72-year-old sleepaway camp hosts more than 100 kids a year.

Administrators realized that the camp would not meet CDC guidelines. "It's kind of a sad day for our community," camp director Scott Mitchell says. "But if you look at other places that have really been hit, it's a small price to pay."

News of camps closing was disappointing for many young people. Delia Graham, 15, got notice that her camp, near Portland, Oregon, was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. "I didn't think it would get so bad, that it would last this long," she says. "I really miss my friends."

Other camps have chosen to move their programs online. Interlochen Arts Camp, in Michigan, hosts some 2,800 kids and teens each year from 50 countries. President Trey Devey says the camp will offer virtual workshops and lessons and shorten this year's session.

While Girl Scouts chapters around the country are tailoring solutions to their region, the Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington will also provide online activities.

Allie Roberts is director of programs there. "It's a heartbreaking decision," she says. "But it's the right decision for the safety of our girls."

—By Ellen Nam



MASKS ON A family wears face masks for protection from swine flu as they arrive at a Los Angeles airport, in California, in 2009.

HELPING HANDS Red Cross workers make face masks during the 1918 flu pandemic.

THE HISTORY OF PANDEMICS

This isn't the first time that disease has spread around the globe. How do past pandemics from history compare to the COVID-19 health crisis?

The new coronavirus pandemic is historic. But this isn't the first time a virus has sickened people around the globe. Pandemics have happened throughout history.

The most recent pandemic started just over a decade ago, in 2009, with the outbreak of a new kind of H1N1 flu called the swine flu. The illness most likely started in North America, and it quickly spread around the world.

Swine flu wasn't nearly as deadly as the coronavirus. This made it easier to control. Governments did not have to issue stay-at-home orders like we are seeing today. By late 2009, vaccines were available to prevent people from becoming sick.

A LOOK BACK

Before the modern era of pandemics, the United States was

hit hard by yellow fever, which arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1793. Yellow fever attacks a person's liver and kidneys. The disease got its name because it causes the skin to take on a yellow tint.

Back then, scientists didn't understand what caused yellow fever or how it spread, which made it difficult to stop the outbreak. But when the weather in Philadelphia cooled down in the fall, the outbreak let up. That's because yellow fever is spread by mosquitoes, which aren't active in cold weather—though scientists wouldn't learn that until a century later. Today, yellow fever can be prevented with a vaccine. The disease is no longer a concern in the U.S., but people traveling to parts of Africa and South America may be required to take precautions.

In 1918, a true pandemic hit, caused by a new kind of flu called the Spanish flu. (The disease didn't actually start in Spain, but newspapers there were among the first to report on it. So people started calling it the Spanish flu, and the name stuck.)

Experts believe that one third of the world's population



A VACCINE ARRIVES
Thousands line up in an auditorium in San Francisco, California, to receive the swine flu vaccine in December 2009.



GETTING TREATMENT
A nurse tends to a patient at a hospital in Washington, D.C., during the 1918 pandemic.

was infected with the disease. Many historians have compared it to the new coronavirus. “They’re similar in the way they infect people,” historian John Barry told TIME Edge. “They’re similar in the way they spread.” Both affect a person’s lungs, and they can both spread when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.

STOPPING THE SPREAD

During the Spanish flu pandemic, the U.S. put in place restrictions similar to those we’re seeing today. People were asked to wear face masks and encouraged to wash their hands. Officials limited large gatherings and ordered people to quarantine themselves.

“Quarantine is centuries and centuries old,” says Katherine Foss, an author and professor who has studied pandemics throughout history. “It’s the Number 1 practice that is used to stop an outbreak. And it works even when scientists don’t know what is making people sick.”

Science has come a long way since 1918. Back then, doctors didn’t even have microscopes that were powerful enough to let them see the viruses that cause pandemics. Today, scientists and doctors have advanced technology to help them battle the new coronavirus. “But since we’re dealing with a brand-new

virus that nobody has ever seen before, it still takes time to develop vaccines and treatments using modern medicine,” Barry says. “In the meantime, the only thing left to fight it with are public-health measures like quarantine.”

Barry says that although there have been many pandemics throughout history, kids should understand that this one is unusually severe.

“This is something you’re going to remember for the rest of your life,” he says. “This is not ordinary. This is a special time that requires special courage. You have an opportunity to rise to greatness. Social distancing matters, and it saves lives.”

LIVING HISTORY

Foss encourages everyone to keep a journal during this time. Future historians will look to these accounts to learn what it was like to live through this pandemic.

Young people, especially, should record their experience, Foss says. These stories often go untold in history books. “It’s important that when we look back later on, we can understand what it was like to be young during this time,” she says. “Your stories about finding joy in times of crisis—those are stories we want told for centuries.”

—By Shay Maunz

IN OUR INBOX

Ryan's teaching himself how to cook. Samaya misses her home in Beijing and her dog, Ozzie. Landon wants to thank all the essential workers. We asked kids to let us know what they're doing and thinking about right now. Read some of their responses below.

How will you and your classmates celebrate the end of the school year? Ask a parent or guardian to share your story by sending it to tfkeditors@time.com. Your response might be featured in a future issue or on our website.

My family and I want to do more to help our community. Next week, we are going to make masks and donate them to the elderly at the nursing home. Also, my sister and I are going to send thank-you letters and cards to doctors and nurses at the hospital. We want to collect food from our neighbors and donate it to the food bank.

Madyson R., 9
Spring Branch, Texas

COVID-19, you shut down my school and my church and sleepovers. But news flash, COVID-19: You can't shut down my heart or my hope! Most of all, you can't shut down love.

Gabriela V., 11
Texarkana, Arkansas

COVID-19 was a surprise for me and my family. We were expecting a nice two-week break for Chinese New Year, but now we haven't seen our dog, Ozzie, in three months. We miss our home in Beijing and our friends, and all we want to do is go back to our normal lives. I had to learn to get along with my brother. It's harder than you think. Now, I'm not only depending on doctors and nurses, I'm depending on you, too. I'm depending on you to wash your hands, wear a face mask when you're outside, and practice your social distancing so one day we can stop this virus and reunite. My hopes are for my family and my friends to be safe. So I beg you not only to help me but to help our world, too.

Samaya M., 9
Beijing, China

To all of the first responders and essential workers: Thank you for your service, or gracias por su servicio!

Landon W., 8
Atlanta, Georgia

My dad is a machinist who runs a shop. He is really smart and knows how to make a lot of things and is ready to help the hospitals if they need parts made for their equipment.

Axel S., 10
Portland, Oregon

There are a lot of people we should appreciate, like delivery drivers, nurses, police officers, people who work at stores, mail truck drivers, and many more.

Ashlyn W., 10
Grand Blanc, Michigan

To stay busy, I taught myself how to make cheese eggs. Before the virus, I wasn't allowed to use the stove. My parents have given me more responsibility, and now I can teach myself how to cook. I mixed the eggs in a bowl and used a frying pan to cook them. I put the eggs in the pan, sprinkled cut-up cheese on them, turned on the flame, and then waited five minutes until they cooked enough to eat. They were delicious!

Ryan B., 10
Bridgewater, Connecticut

I am bored in home quarantine. We can hardly go outside. Two days ago, my family and I went outside in the evening for iftar (special food for breaking the fast during Ramadan). We sat in the car and ate our food near a park. It is a different time now. I miss my friends, playing games with them, the schoolyard, and swimming. I hope a vaccine for the coronavirus will be invented soon and we will go back to normal again!

Fariq N., 8
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

I am sad and happy. I am happy because I get to spend more time with my family, and I am sad because I don't get to see my friends much, or my dad. My dad works for UPS, so he is an essential worker.

Caleb H., 8
Douglasville, Georgia

I did not know that the coronavirus was coming. I didn't know the word *pandemic* even existed! I wasn't prepared, because it was the first time in my life that this had ever happened. As time went by, schools closed and I was stuck at home. Then we had online classes with my friends and teacher, Mrs. Sandra. Since we do not have swim practice, the only way I can swim is on the bed. It makes you very jubilant sometimes when you have your little 3-year-old brother following you and doing crazy stuff.

Hengsheng W., 8
Seattle, Washington

CONNECTING GENERATIONS



In March, as schools were closing to slow the spread of COVID-19, a new website was launched called Eldera. Eldera was designed to help people make connections even while practicing social distancing. It pairs kids with adults 60 and over for tutoring and conversation. "We're building what we call a virtual village," Dana Griffin, one of Eldera's founders, told TIME for Kids. "Each and every connection brings so much joy to the kids and to the elders." To learn more about Eldera, TFK Kid Reporter Nora Wilson-Hartgrove registered for the service and did a session. Here, she writes about her experience.

As of early May, 72% of students around the world were out of school because of COVID-19. That means many of us are dealing with remote learning, and we probably have some extra time on our hands.

Eldera is a new service offering help during this difficult time. The website matches kids with elders. These volunteers are 60 years old and over. Once a kid and an elder have been paired, Eldera brings them together over Zoom. It gives them a chance to connect.

Kids can choose to be tutored in math or reading, to have the elder tell them stories, or just to have a conversation. With my dad's help, I signed

up so I could learn firsthand about Eldera and write about it for TIME for Kids.

The first step is to ask a parent to register with their name and email address. Then Eldera asks your parent some questions about what you're interested in and when you're available. Before long, your parent gets an email telling her or him about the elder you've been matched with. All the elders are vetted by Eldera to make sure the process is safe. Then the Eldera team schedules your first session and sends a link to a virtual meeting room.

When I met my elder partner, Jackie, we had a great time. She told me two stories, and we had a nice conversation. We talked about how stories can seem silly and distracting. But they can also remind us of how people have made it through hard times in the past.

I would recommend Eldera to kids and adults who love to interact with people and need something to look forward to right now. It's a fun way to meet new people. After six weeks at home, Eldera was like a quarantine escape for me!

FROM A DISTANCE Nora talks to an adult she met through Eldera, a new website that connects kids and elders.

