

# Voices beyond the Virus

*An Invitation for You to Speak and Remember*

Your first name or initials: \_\_\_\_\_ Your age: \_\_\_\_\_

The town and state where you live: \_\_\_\_\_

## Voices 6: The Pandemic and My Teachers and School

In many communities, teachers are working hard to stay connected with students while schools are closed. What has changed about the way your teacher does his or her job?

How does it feel to have school this way?

What is the hardest part?

Has anything about it been good?

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## Voices 7: The Pandemic in My State and My Nation

A pandemic can start almost anywhere. This one seems to have started near the city of Wuhan, China. How far away is that from your community? How many days would it take to travel between the two places?

Does it surprise you that a virus – and an illness – could spread across so many miles? How do you think that happened?

Do you know the date when a person in your state was the first to be diagnosed as having the virus?

If you had been the governor of your state that day and needed to make important decisions, what would you have done? How would it have felt to be in charge?

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## Voices 8: Other Pandemics and Emergencies – A Comparison

The pandemic has become an emergency for people in countries throughout the world. However, this is not the first time that citizens of many different places have faced a common problem. In 1918, influenza caused a pandemic. War has caused emergencies, too, and so have hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and wildfires. Use a phone or email to have a conversation with someone who has experienced a state or global emergency – or a person who remembers stories from their parents. Here are some questions you might consider asking.

If you were a child or teenager when the emergency happened, did you understand what was going on?

Did the emergency cause your life to change? If so, how?

How do you feel about the current pandemic?

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## Voices 9: Good Neighbors and Kind Hearts

This pandemic has caused many bad things to happen, including sickness and the loss of jobs. However, it also has prompted acts of kindness and generosity. Have you heard or seen a story about a person or group helping other people in amazing ways?

Have you or your family been able to do something nice for your community or your neighbors?

What is one thing you might like to do for a neighbor or your community when the pandemic is over?

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## Voices 10: Creativity and a Little Crazy

Government leaders have encouraged citizens in many communities to stay at home during the pandemic to stop the spread of the virus. Some people have passed the time by pursuing hobbies and projects. Others have shown their creativity by making videos that feature jokes or interesting songs. What are some things you have done to pass the time?

Have you seen any of the funny videos or songs people have during the pandemic?

Why do you think they chose to make a video that was funny instead of serious or sad?