



The Novel Coronavirus: We Can Stay Safe

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The Novel coronavirus and COVID-19

“Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses which may cause illness in animals or humans. In humans, several coronaviruses are known to cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. COVID-19 is the infectious disease caused by the most recently discovered coronavirus.”

World Health Organization (WHO)

Staying Safe and Healthy

COVID-19 is affecting many of our lives. But there are doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals, as well as providers of essential services, who are helping us stay safe. It's a difficult time but we are all in this together. Some of your best friends are here to tell you the best practices that will help you take care of your health, and show you how to help others. Be smart, stay safe, and support each other.

When in doubt, ask WHO

Visit <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019> for more information.

With thanks to Anirban Mahapatra, Dr N S Prashanth, Shambhavi Naik and Dr Tanya Seshadri.

Ammachi's Amazing Advice

Written and illustrated by Rajiv Eipe

Sooraj and I are staying safe at home,
and we hope that you are too.
Especially if you're feeling unwell.



If either of us has a fever, a cough or difficulty breathing, we will first call up our doctor or the government helpline and then follow their instructions. Only a doctor can tell if what we have is COVID-19.



I felt a little sick yesterday, but only because I ate too many uniappams.

Why Is Neema Singing 'Happy Birthday' Today?

Written by Bijal Vachharajani

Illustrated by Priya Kuriyan

When it's coronavirus time and
everyone's confused and scared,
How is Neema staying safe from germs
today?

She's washing her hands regularly with
soap for twenty seconds, while singing
"Happy Birthday" two times.

"Happy birthday to me,
Happy birthday to me,
Happy birthday, dear Neema,
Happy birthday to me!"

Happy birthday to me,
Happy birthday to me,
Happy birthday, dear Neema,
Happy birthday to me!"



Uma Versus the Virus

Written by Meera Ganapathi

Illustrated by Renuka Rajiv



If you want to cough or sneeze,
Make sure you use... Atishoo!
A tissue, please.
And if a tissue can't be found,
Hurry, bring your elbow around.
Cover your mouth, cover your nose,
See? I can smile with my eyebrows.



Farida Plans to Not Touch Her Face

Written by Maegan Dobson-Sippy

Illustrated by Jayesh Sivan

Morning, noon and night, Farida keeps her hands busy. In the morning, she shares seeds with the sparrows and parakeets who visit her window sill.

Cheep cheep cheep!

“Don’t forget, if we don’t touch our faces, then the virus can’t enter our bodies from our hands and make us sick!” she tells Amma.



Who Returned Bhaiya's smile?

Written by Sanjana Kapur

Illustrated by Sunaina Coelho



Bhaiya is feeling alone. Everyone is telling him that the world has become dangerous. Bhaiya's monster-friend Dukduk is growing bigger and bigger, and has swallowed up his smile.

Bhaiya talks to Mama and Papa. And he plays with Chiru. He isn't as alone anymore. Bhaiya realises he doesn't have to feel locked up.

Meera and Ameera Keep a Safe Distance

Written by Nimmy Chacko

Illustrated by Lavanya Naidu

"Ameera, did you hear? There's a virus on the loose! It makes people terribly ill," said Meera to her imaginary friend.

ACHOO! KHAU-KHAU!



"Oh no, it looks like the virus may have caught that person, Meera," said Ameera.

"Yes, and if we're too close to someone who's sneezing or coughing, the virus may catch us and then it might jump from us to somebody else!"

"So what do we do?"

"We stay away! At least six feet away."

"Good thing we have our paper boat ready to sail away, then!"



Nani's Staying Inside Her House

Written and illustrated by Deepa Balsavar



Now is not the time to roam.
Nani says you are safe at home.
The park can wait for another day,
Just for now, indoors you stay.





Nani tells her friends,
“Do what’s right.
Stay indoors, day and night.
And if you can, do a good deed,
There are so many others who
are in need.”

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This story: The Novel Coronavirus: We Can Stay Safe is written by [Deepa Balsavar](#), [Rajiv Eipe](#), [Bijal Vachharajani](#), [Maegan Dobson Sippy](#), [Meera Ganapathi](#), [Nimmy Chacko](#), [Sanjana Kapur](#). © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

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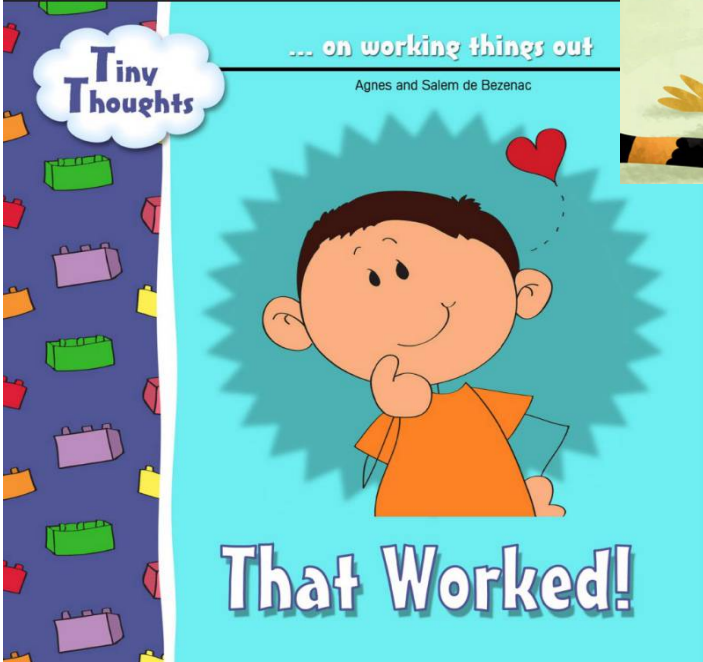
(English)

Find out how to be smart, stay safe and support each other in the time of the new Coronavirus.

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



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