

# THE INDOOR GENERATION



ENGLISH MAGAZINE  
FOR STUDENTS

issued by the Children's Club 6

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## EDITORIAL

*by Celesta Popa, English teacher Children's Club 6*

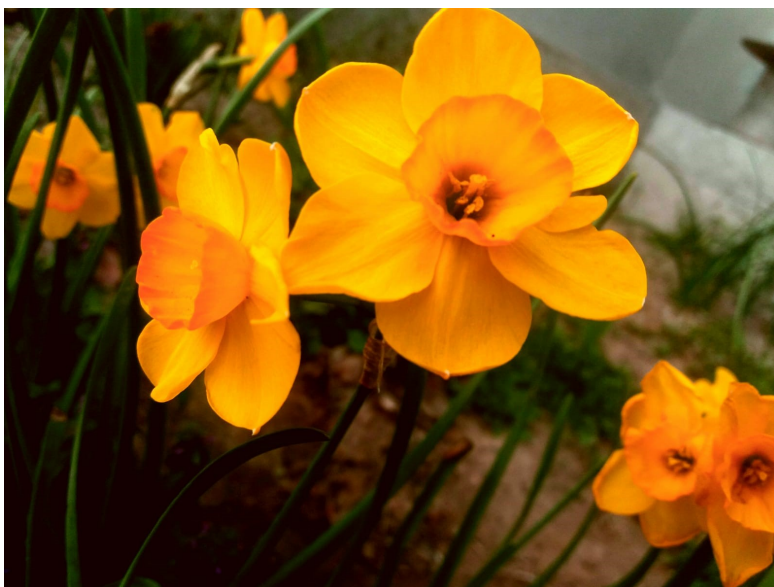
Hello, Indoors! Now that we are all forced to become Indoors, we should use our imagination to do something, not simply walling ourselves into our apartments! But how? If getting out is not an option? Some of you are still able to go outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic and harness the calming and health-promoting aspects of nature...by walking the dog. But not all of us have one, so, what can we do?

Research shows that being in contact with natural stimuli has a positive impact on our wellbeing. In fact, research has shown that nature can have a positive effect on our health, even when viewed from indoors. One study found that patients who are recovering from illness have shown improvement of the healing times when they can view nature from their window. Again, what if we do not have a nice view from our window?

Would be enough to take virtual ways to explore nature we all miss these days?

Watch a nature documentary on your streaming service, like these on Netflix. Listen to a nature podcast while you clean or rest.

As we each do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19, let's remember the inherent value in the outdoors whether experienced outside, through an open window, and/or within the walls of our house. It is during this time of new routines and decreased social interaction that we most need to attune to the wonder, detail, and healing aspects of the natural world.



*Picture taken by Cristina Grosu, 10th grade*

## A Teacher's Perspective on Online Classes

*by Camelia Cerneanu, English teacher, Victor Babes National College*

I'm one of the teachers who have adapted rather fast to online teaching. Yes, it's more difficult, more time consuming, more demanding. And yet, it has challenged me to adapt my teaching techniques, to reinvent the methods I used before and most important – it has pushed me to learn how to use different online applications and platforms. I must admit that before this I wasn't completely unexperienced in terms of technology, but because my job has never required the use of audio and video conferencing platforms, I had to start from scratch. Besides, all the books on methodology that I read didn't even mention virtual schooling, so I had to find solutions within days. Almost all the methods and instruments that I successfully employed before school closure have proven insufficient.

I think that the major challenge that teachers are facing now is that we have to be efficient, to present attractive and well-structured material, to convey ideas in such a way that the students are focused, active, motivated – all of these in 40 minutes which is the maximum time provided but the free version of Zoom App. I've spent hours in search of interesting and age-appropriate clips and short movies, hours to prepare appealing Power-Point Presentations, to devise interesting activities, and yet these long hours of work haven't made me feel frustrated or helpless. On the contrary, this extra work has pushed me to exceed both my personal and professional limits. This has proven what I already knew – that teachers are not and have never been semi gods who know everything related to their job. There is always room for self-improvement, and we should take advantage of every opportunity may arise.

Undoubtedly, we've taken a look into the future. Some of us were nervous, reluctant, skeptical and some of us felt motivated, excited, confident. No matter how this period has made us feel, we must be aware that what we've been doing for the past weeks could become the norm sooner than we thought. It's up to us if we want to remember these months as a burdensome and inconvenient experience or to consider it a precious chance to make an incredible progress in an unexpectedly brief period of time. Yes, teachers have never been trained to face such a situation and yes, maybe the government's guidelines haven't been clear and helpful enough. So what? Should we criticize the authorities and do nothing? Should we blame the outdated school system and the fact that we have no methodology for online classes? Should we disregard the children and teenagers who expect us to teach and advise them no matter the situation? Shouldn't we be professionals despite the confusion we may experience?

Let's not forget that sometimes an unexpected and unparalleled situation is what a nation may need to evolve. These circumstances have pushed our country towards progress in several domains, including education. Perhaps we should focus more on this step forward, rather than on the difficulties we all have encountered.



# 14 things to do while stuck inside due to a pandemic

( only for girls)

by Cerasela Stancu

Although remaining inside is a good way to protect yourself and others from the coronavirus, What's there to do while stuck indoors?

- Start a journal or blog
  - Meditate
- Text all your exes ...no..that's not the right thing to do....
- Face masks, moisturizer, oh my! Treat yourself to a 10-step skin care routine you don't have time for during a normal school week.
  - Try on all your clothes and determine whether if they suit you or not
    - Watch the films that won Oscars
      - Knit (..really??)
    - Coloring books: They're not just for kids
      - Bake cookies
- Take time to reflect: What have you accomplished in the last year? What goals are you setting for yourself in the next year?
  - Read, read, read......
  - Make a list of things for which you are grateful.
  - Try new make up. Yes, that new shade of lipstick !
    - Sleep. Get lots of it.



# Contests in English language organized on line



The 7th edition of the  
Poem Festival of  
reciting and creation  
IANUS, is now online!

Ferdinand School Bucharest

Concursul Județean de Limba Engleză  
"READ, LEARN, WIN!"- ediția a IIa  
Botosani



## My Fest

Drama contest in English for students organized  
by Kretzulescu High School

Plays, monologues, scripts presented on line

## MY GENERATION – Vocea Generatiei Tale

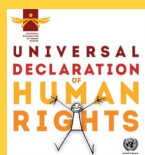
Concurs de poezie, proza, desen/pictura si  
fotografie

All materials should be presented on line



*The American Embassy invites Romanian high school  
students aged 16-18 to participate in the video  
competition on*

*"Never too Young to Change the World:  
Youth Standing Up for Everyone's Rights!"*



*Create an original video of up to 2 minutes and  
submit it via WeTransfer to [infobuch@state.gov](mailto:infobuch@state.gov) no  
later than March 31, 2020.*

*You could win a GoPro video camera or other great  
prizes.*

*Find out more at: <http://ro.usembassy.gov/hrd>*

Creating videos on "Never Too Young to  
Change the World: Youth Standing Up for  
Everyone's Rights" organized by US  
Embassy

The U.S. Embassy in Bucharest invites high school students aged 16-18 to participate in a video contest to raise awareness about the importance of standing up for everyone's rights in Romania. In addition to prizes for the best videos, winners will have their videos featured on the Embassy's online platforms. The theme of the contest is "Never Too Young to Change the World: Youth Standing Up for Everyone's Rights." We are looking for creative, short, catchy videos that best express the theme. Winners will be selected based on the video's effectiveness in raising awareness about the importance of standing up for everyone's rights, originality and creativity, and video quality.

# LET'S THEATRE

4th EDITION



**Poems**

**MONOLOGUES**

**sketches**

**DIALOGUES**

**plays**

Participare indirecta

Filmele pot fi trimise pana la

data de 8.06.2020 la adresa :

celestapopa@gmail.com sau prin

<https://wetransfer.com>

Clubul Copiilor Sector 6

Str. Berzei nr. 7

Bucuresti

va invita la :

## Concursul regional de teatru in lb. engleza pt elevi “Let’s Theatre” editia a IV a CAERI poz. 170 Domeniul cultural artistic—teatru



The winners will be announced  
via ZOOM on June, 13, 2020

As organizers, we are all heartbroken that “Let’s Theatre” drama contest in English language for students will not be able to be staged in May 23, 2020, as planned, but we feel confident that it can be organized on line (indirect participation) so that the “Let’s Theatre“ family, across the whole country will continue to provide love and support for each other at this difficult time.

It seemed a tricky challenge under lockdown, to do rehearsals, and in fact, this is true. But the internet gives us wonderful opportunities, so that all students can take advantage from.

“Let’s Theatre” organizers invite all students aged 6-19 to submit their registration to” celestapopa@gmail.com

Every mail submitted receives feedback and is registered to participate in the Contest.



## ...the past weeks have seen drastic changes all over the world .....

Annoying as it is, lounging around at home does have its upsides – you can finally indulge in all those things you never have time for, whether it be taking a cooking masterclass, attending to your cracked heels or getting through that book you've been ignoring all year.

There's nothing like quarantine to indulge in a small TV binge

### Make Health a Lesson

With coronavirus on everyone's minds, it's more important than ever to stress personal hygiene and health. Consider using this situation as an opportunity to remind our kids about clean habits . The importance of handwashing, why kids students should never touch their faces, eyes or mouth, how they s should always cough into their elbows, how and why to practice social distancing with people outside their homes

In addition to good hygiene, our children should care of their physical and mental health,

They should be encouraged to talk to their parents possible fears or problems that may appear

Good slepp and healthy meals can boost their immune systems and keep them energized.

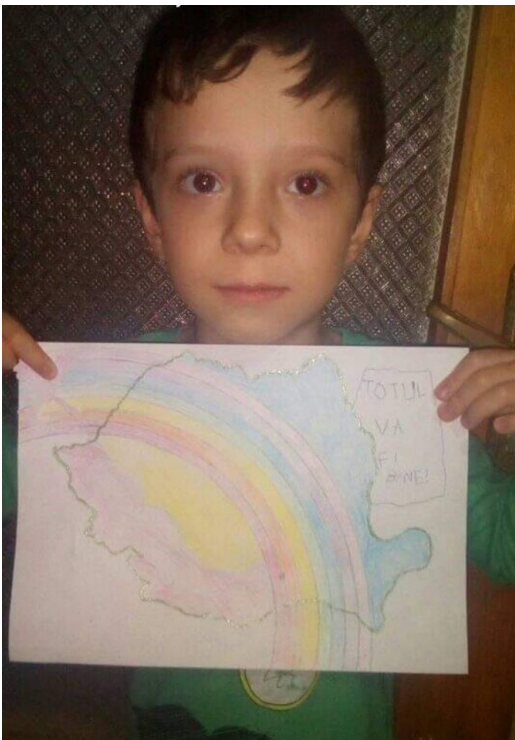
With schools on lockdown due to coronavirus ...

Children have boundless energy that needs space to flow. They're cooped up indoors all day, and don't get the chance to socialise

Parents should keep their children's minds stimulated by becoming virtual tourists. They can watch YouTube videos, check out audiobooks from your library while at home or even try cooking new recipes.

There's no better way to promote family bonding while stimulating your child's mind than playing a game together as a family

Create family schedules. Simple things like getting dressed in regular school clothes instead of lounging around in pajamas can help to normalize a non-normal situation





Laura Bianca Andreea 10G , Kretzulescu High School, Laura Stanciu , coordinating teacher



Petre Lavinia 10  
th grade

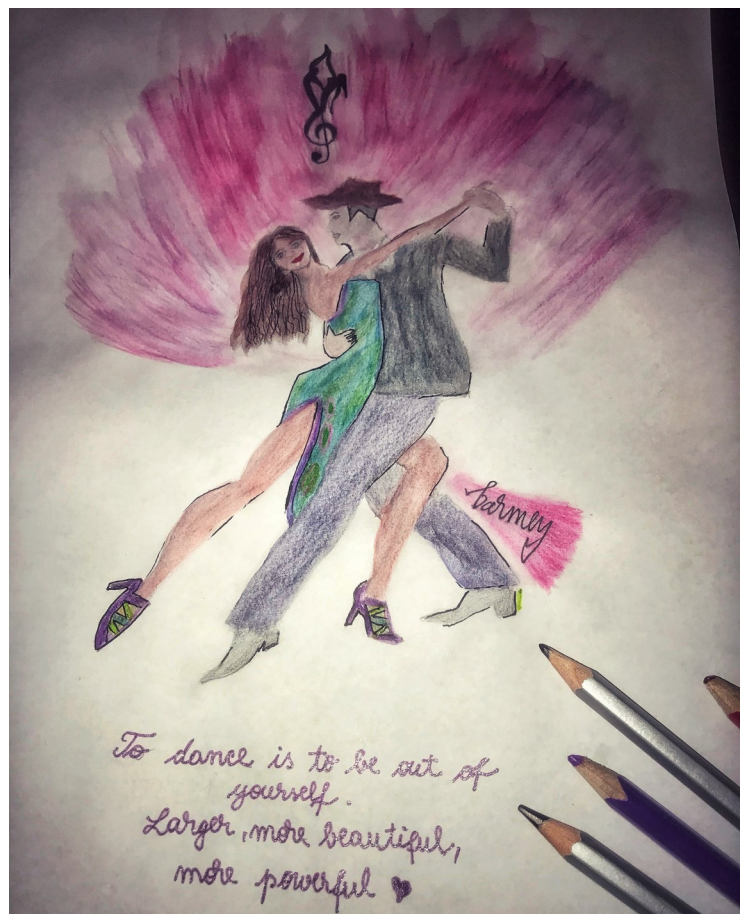




While I stayed at home safe, I really started missing the outside world. I was missing the mountains, the trees, the wind, the smell of the grass and because of this, I started building my own scenery in my imagination.

I wanted to share this magical place to my family and friends, but sometimes a drawing could describe more than words would, so I started painting it as well.

Ciobanescu Laura, 11G



Carmen Anton cls 11 G



## HOBBY

*by Manea Catalina 9th grade*

Depending on how you see things, staying at home can mean looking out of the window and crying because you can't do what you love, or it can bring new challenges and opportunities. A hobby I've recently discovered is cooking. My mother spends hours in the kitchen and I was with her, I started to help her and that's how I started to like cooking. I learned during this time to make many desserts, pancakes, donuts and strawberry cake.

In addition to desserts I learned to make homemade bread, French fries and many other things. Before this, I only knew how to make some sandwiches so I believe I have learnt a lot. I found some interesting recipes on the net and I would like to put them into practice.

During this period I discovered how many things my mother and I have in common. Cooking together we got closer and we started to leave our differences aside. Maybe this quarantine was a break that God gave us so that we could spend some time with loved ones.

You should give it a try! Believe me, cooking is wonderful, it's something relaxing and in a word I can say that cooking is an art!



*By Ana Maria Macri , 9th grade*

For me staying home is not that bad. I miss hanging out with my friends a lot, but I personally think that staying home can be something good.

You can discover new things about you : what you like , what you want for the future , and many other things.

I found out I love nature , animals and things I had no interest in before. I also really like spending time with my family and learning new things.

I enjoy staying home because I learn how to appreciate little things more!

## Staying home

by Barbu Andra 11 G

**Staying home all day, all night**

**It's both a favor and a must**

Staying home can be such fun

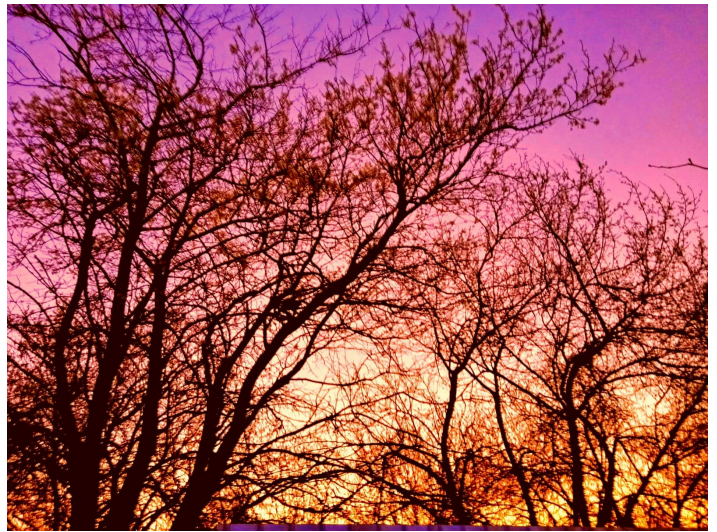
So make the most of all this time.

You can dance or sing or paint

Cook pancakes or just call a friend

You can sing, or spend the time

Watching movies with loved ones.



*Picture taken by Cristina Grosu,  
10 th grade*

What you really need to do

It's to clean the house and you.

Wash your hands as well as you can

And be sure to do it again and again.

Eat some fruits and vegetables

To be strong and powerful

Don't be scared of Covid

Just stay home and do new things.



*Radu Eva-Iulia*

# SCARED?

THIS ONE IS FOR PARENTS...

*by Anda Raileanu, 10th grade*

The first step every parent needs to take is talk with kids about why schools are closed, and why self-isolation is so critical. It's important to convey that the situation is serious, without invoking panic. Keep in mind that you never know what incorrect, and possibly alarmist, ideas about COVID-19 that your kids learned online or from friends.

Parents need to explain, in age-appropriate language, what the virus is and its impact on the children's health. Reassure them that their parents are doing everything to keep them safe and healthy without over-exaggerating that everything is all right.

Your children are likely to be just as scared about all the known unknowns of the virus as you are, so regular check-ins should be a must. Hold frequent family meetings to allow children to voice their fears and to discuss and create family rules and routines for safe practices.

While children are very resilient, it's entirely possible your child is terrified by the idea of a virus that, frankly, has already killed thousands of people, and might have already impacted someone they know.



**Karina Popescu**

**10th grade**

Basic Micro expressions

- Happiness,
- Sadness,
- Surprise,
- Disgust,
- Anger,
- Fear,
- Contempt



# The Girl

*by Bianca Ivascu, Xth grade*

The tall building seemed to sway but she knew that must be an illusion. Buildings don't move. She walked past it, hoping it was just her imagination. She was tired and hungry but she knew she had to finish the journey. Her family depended on her and she didn't want to disappoint them. When she finally reached the edge of the city, she noticed a small cave entrance under an old log. She knew that it had had to be the cave she had been told about, so she made her way through the twigs and vines covering the entrance. She knew that there could be venomous snakes and spiders down there but she had to take the risk, for her family. Though the gap was small, sunlight was able to light the cave enough for a human to see. She scanned the room with her blue eyes, until she noticed something shining behind a rock. She gently picked it up and cleaned it with her clothes. It was a diamond crystal as big as her thumb. She smiled for a long time because she was happy. And she was happy that she could finally feed her family.



# You are luckier than you think you are

by Daria Orosanu, 10th grade,

When we pronounce the word "isolation" we think of loneliness, fear... When we "isolate ourselves from others" we always do it because of a negative reason. Something tells us that our connection is a bad thing and the distance is necessary and beneficial. Unfortunately, this time, the isolation is on a global level. We are being attacked where it hurts the most: our health. No cure, no vaccine has been found yet that could stop the spread of this virus. For the moment, the only solution is the quarantine. Unfortunately, many people see it as a bad, pointless joke. They are influenced by the beautiful weather outside and say that the only pleasant things to do at home are watching TV, eating and sleeping, forgetting about the plans they kept postponing at a time when we didn't even know what Coronavirus meant.

Do you remember that book you received for your birthday with an interesting title, cover and description that you kept saying you would read it "later"? Or that intense workout that doesn't require going to the gym and that you never did because you were too tired because of your job, postponing it "later"? Or that board game with which your children came in their arms to play with, you postponing it "later"? That "later" turned into years. Or that cake you were afraid to bake because you thought it

would take more time to clean after than to prepare it? "Later!", huh? It's interesting because that "later" could be now. Get up from the couch and do whatever you planned before this. It is a good time to discover new passions, to spend time with your family. To rediscover yourself! To listen to new music, to learn new dances with your loved ones or fill the playlist with old songs.

We learn to cherish our things only after we lose them. We needed a virus to reevaluate our life, to see how beautiful it really is. Don't blame the president and the government for the extension of the state of emergency while the number of patients is increasing. Enjoy that you are asked to stay in the house to save the world, not to go to the battlefield to fight. So ... advantages? There is only one that summarizes all the aspects I have described so far: YOU ARE HEALTHY! YOU ARE ALIVE! If you get to enjoy this, you will see that you will be a happier and more fulfilled person. And after this period ends don't forget what quarantine taught you. Live simpler and beautiful. My dad told me once: "I don't know about destiny, but I know that everything has a meaning in life". Yes, it does! Even this destructive virus that kills a human every minute, has a purpose. This is a lesson and it's really sad that we need to learn it this way... But we'll get over it!



## COVID-19 PANDEMIC. INFO & BENEFITS

by Andreas Ristache, 9<sup>th</sup> grade

“A pandemic... ugh!”, “There are no benefits in a pandemic! I get bored as fast as a cheetah!”. We all know that these sentences are on everyone’s lips, but we also know that most people say that because they are accustomed to the active life and when it comes to boredom, they don’t know what to do. If you find yourself in what you have just read above, you are in the right place.

You need to know that the COVID-19 is a disease caused by the coronavirus, which is very contagious. The World Health Organization declared a pandemic in order protect us. I think that you are now asking “ why a pandemic?”. I will tell you the answer. The truth is that this virus has “travelled” to a lot of countries and made millions of infections and lots of deaths – tragic deaths. Those people who got infected didn’t respect the laws enforced by the authorities and went to the supermarket without wearing a mask, gloves – shortly, without being protected. This protection can be guaranteed only by you. You don’t know when you are near an infected person and the chances of him coughing are very high, and for you taking the disease are higher.

Now, let’s move on to the reason you are probably reading this – *the benefits of these period when we should stay at home, also known as a pandemic or self-isolation.*

Firstly, the biggest benefit (in my opinion) is that you can stay with your family, interact with them much more than you usually do it (like 1 year ago or in January). This will make you feel stronger and you will see that in the end we will win this fight against the virus. Another advantage is that you have more (multiplied by 100) time for yourself. You can take a long shower, watch movies, do absolutely all the things you love to do, but you couldn’t do until now, when you are as free as a taxi in the midnight. I have two words for you: *enjoy yourself!*

Secondly, another advantage is based on your health. If you weren’t used to washing your hands regularly, you now need to, you must wash them after and before you eat, after you come back from the shop, after a walk with your dog. This pandemic really improves your self-hygiene.

The next thing I want to discuss about is online school and online work. I cannot call them advantages, because this thing must always exist, not only when we can’t go to school or office. This thing proves us that we can do it! We can be with one step closer to our desired future. The only disadvantage is that you can’t socialize normally, like face to face, you need to look into a screen, which makes you tired and makes your eyes hurt. True socialization is only face to face.



## The perks of isolation

by Radu Muntean, 9<sup>th</sup> grade



Obviously, Corona is bad and all...but there are a lot of benefits of being in quarantine, too!

Let's admit it! We all kind of like it. It can get boring sometimes, but we always find new things to do! We learn a new game, we spend time with our families, we listen to music...We have a lot of options!

Let's say you've watched all the TV Shows on Netflix, you've listened to all

the music in the world and you've played every possible game with your friends. YOU STILL HAVE A LOT OF THINGS TO DO! Things like drawing, creating your own board game, learning how to solve the Rubik's cube, making a milkshake, cooking dinner, throwing a party, playing beer pong (but instead of beer you use orange juice), playing poker with your family (but instead of money, the loser does the dishes). I know you have that game in your house you don't know how to play...LEARN HOW TO PLAY IT! The options are endless.

There are a lot of other good things that are happening because of Corona quarantine. The planet is slowly decontaminating from all the pollution. The earth is healing because there aren't that many cars and factories running. This virus is helping nature and keeping humans away from pollution.

I see this isolation as a new experience. I have never spent so much time with my family in my life! We are all home watching movies, playing games, having fun. We have this free time for projects that were abandoned because "we didn't have time" or for passions like singing, dancing, drawing.

Oh! Don't forget about the childish part of yourself. Go to the storage closet and find your old toys. This will be very nostalgic. Make puzzles – this will keep your mind active and your brain cells in good shape.

And as advice for you – it is better to make an IQ test or trivia test instead of watching series or films. Trust me!

All in all, I hope that I've helped you with my pieces of advice and the advantages I've just told you. Take care! #staysafe



## Reading is dreaming with open eyes

by Eric Minca, 3rd grade

One day, a girl whose name was Adelina, was reading, as she liked reading a lot. She was dreaming every time she read a book. She was happier and happier. She was very upset if she couldn't read one day.

One day when she was reading she saw a portal near her:

What is going on? Why is here a portal?

He entered.

-Hello, is anybody here? I think not, so I am going to go back to my house.

- Who are you? says a misterious voice

- Who are **you**? asks Adelina

- What ? You don't know me? I am Nig, the Pegasus.

Then she saw a lot of mythical creatures like: dragons, unicorns, Pegasus, Phoenix...

- Wow, how is that? so many different creatures!

She told them her life and they told theirs. She was very happy, for a second she forgot her own world. The world where there is her unique and beautiful family. She went to find that portal, but the portal disappeared. She tried to find that portal but she couldn't. She was very angry and tired. She got asleep immediately.

The second day she woke up and found she was in her own bed. Now she understood that she was reading and dreaming with open eyes.

+++++

Thoughts for the readers.

*I bet you can read a lot of books, like me. I 've been reading since I was 5 years old and now I am 10 years old, so I've read over 300 books in English and Romanian, but you know that every time I read a book I can see the whole scene in my head. I can imagine everything because I am reading and dreaming with open eyes. I am very happy when I imagine what is happening in the story. I can go in different places in my mind and meet mythical creatures, for example: Pegasus, Phoenix. Or I can learn different languages. I can discover new countries and cultures. I can find new history or go in the past or to the future. I can see what live on another countries. It's interesting. The books have a magic power on me, it's dreaming with open eyes.*



## Don't lose hope

by Alice Stoica, 9<sup>th</sup> grade

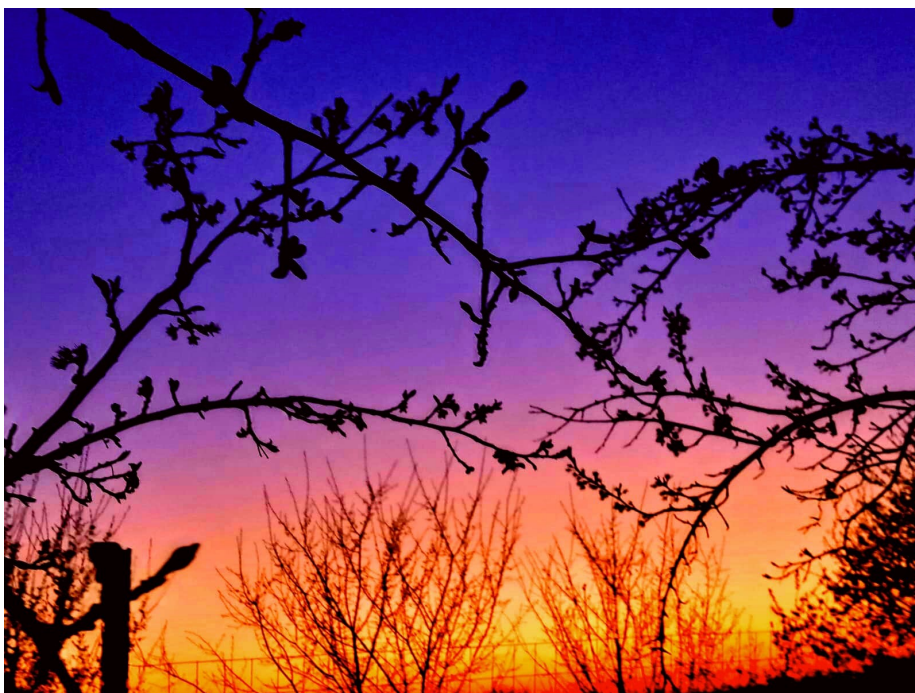
I know we are going through some tough times and it is kind of difficult to see the positive side with all that it's happening these days around the Globe. We should try to remember we've overcome challenges before and even bad times end. All that is left now is hope for better days and a brighter future.

I think almost everybody knows the saying "hope springs eternal". It may seem like it is the end of the world because we are not allowed to see our friends and family or the fact that we are forbidden to go outside, but we have to stop thinking like that for the sake of our sanity.

Instead of being worried we should try to enjoy these days. For example, we could spend more time with our family. Before this epidemy exploded I barely had time to be with them. I was too busy with school and they were all day at work. Now, we spend a lot of time together trying to catch up, playing games or watching TV.

I also miss my friends very much, I miss seeing them face to face everyday. The fact that we are stuck inside our houses is very depressing, I know, but we can't do anything about that, so we could at least try to make

of these days the best we can. Instead of complaining about this situation, when we want to see our friends, we can try some safe alternatives like videocalls on WhatsApp, Instagram, Snapchat or even Zoom.



I've never thought that I would say this, but here I am: I miss school. Online school does not compare with real school. I miss talking to and laughing with my classmates during the breaks and I also miss being able to walk to school or to enjoy the sunrise as I get ready. I chose to not focus very much on this aspect. I know - I only hurt myself because there is nothing I can do to change this, but I'm trying to remain positive.

It is no secret that the Earth is slowly dying and we are to blame. In just a few weeks of quarantine drastic changes have been observed all over the world. In Italy, for example, it has been noticed that the pollution levels have decreased and the waters of Venice canals are now cleaner than ever.

In the end, I think this virus may seem like the cry for help of the Earth. It cannot no longer handle us after all the destructions that we have made throughout time. We have to start treasuring our Earth before it's too late. This virus warns us we can't take all for granted. We should learn to

cherish what we have: our family, our friends or even the chance of going outside.



## A matter of perspective

*Teodora Rotaru, 9<sup>th</sup> grade*

In a conversation the thing that makes our answers different is perspective. That is why perspective one of the most important things in our life. The fact that we live different lives, our view on life is different.

The same thing happens with the situation we are currently in, a global pandemic. This started making its appearance at the beginning of this year. Since then, unfortunately, a lot of bad things have happened, which makes us believe that this is one of the worst years of our lives. From my experience this time off hasn't been as bad as I thought it would be; I can't see my friends and I can get very bored as a routine is forming. The quarantine is forcing me to do the same thing every day, but there a lot of good things, too.

For me the best thing that I can do to keep me on the positive side is to think of the positive aspects of everything I see, hear and do. For starters, the rules and laws that have been applied are making a huge difference on our environment. Last year scientists told us that there were only 18 months till we weren't able to undo the effects of global warming and now for the first time in decades the water flowing through the canals of Venice is clear, the fish and swans returned, in China the air pollution has dropped significantly. The planet is healing.

With all this free time we now have the opportunity to take care of ourselves and the people around us. Since this quarantine has started, I began taking care of myself by finding new and interesting hobbies to keep me busy. There are still a ton of new activities to discover and explore.

This whole experience has changed my perspective on the world and the way people react in a case of emergency. I'm disappointed in the people who couldn't control themselves and "had" to go outside to have fun and meet with friends. They are mostly the reason why this has become such a huge problem worldwide. I feel like those people are setting a bad example and if we want for this quarantine to end, we should confine to the rules which aren't so tough considering how many people have died. But it's not too late to stop this from spreading further.

The media is scaring us by presenting only the bad parts and I think that if we saw all the good aspects, it would be less scary and we would actually be able to enjoy this time and actually stay at home to let our lives return to normal.

To survive in life we need to view it in different perspectives and let ourselves believe that eventually everything will be alright.

## Why do I like quarantine?

*by Andreea Jordan, 9<sup>th</sup> grade*

It may sound strange, but despite all the problems caused by this pandemic, I have found some reasons why I'm glad I have experienced a pandemic in my life.

Coronavirus scared us all, we ended up in isolation and we have been living between the same four walls for more than two months. It sounds sad, but do we have reasons to enjoy? I found a few and I would like to present them hoping that more and more people will go through this period smiling.

My first smile came when I spent time with my loved ones, time I never had and wanted many times. It is precious time, with a value that we cannot estimate. Every day I have the chance to create a special moment with my loved ones.

I miss going to school or the half hour I was in a hurry to get dressed and not be late, I forgot what it's like to leave the house, so I have been sitting at the window, day by day watching the empty streets lit up by the sun that once touched my skin. The city is empty, it seems deserted and yet it is full of life. I have noticed that because people stay in the house pollution is no longer one of nature's problems. The wind blows and passes through the healthy leaves of the trees, spreads the scent of flowers and passes me by the window to caress my cheek. I think our planet is the luckiest during this period, it is regenerating and gathering all the resources that people can no longer take from it. I smile at the thought that pollution has been declining more and more and I hope we all have something to learn from nature's messages.

And finally, the reason I like quarantine is that I have time for all the personal plans I had forgotten and buried under the mountain of chores and problems for school and home. I keep calm, I have as much time as I want, and I allow myself as much time as I can to make the best decisions for my future and my life. I am glad I have this free time. It has brought many changes in my life and even if it is unpleasant, somehow, I have made the best of each day in quarantine so far.

I will never forget this period of a few months during which my whole life changed, and I had to have the strength and patience to adapt in order to be happy. In a few decades this will be a historic moment, so why can't I brag that I lived it with a smile on my face?

## *Trapped inside my mind: A blaze of hope*

*by Diana Chiriac, 9<sup>th</sup> grade*

It feels cold...even if the sun is brightly shining on the clear blue sky, the sound of the birds singing is the only thing that reminds us that it is almost mid-May. It is still there: a feeling we can't describe which seems to make us sad and anxious, a weight on our shoulders. As the days are passing by, we seem to drift away from what we once loved doing. "Stay away", "Avoid interactions of any kind" and "Stay home" are the most heard phrases today. Lately these words have replaced the hugs, smiles, handshakes, dates - in one word our human interactions because it is the right thing to do for now. I don't doubt it, we better prevent it than treat it.

As the pandemic crisis has changed everything, "sightseeing" from my window has become my new hobby. A few days ago, I was doing that, and a strong familiar feeling of nostalgia hit me - seeing such a beautiful weather but so lonely streets. My home has become so quiet. "The silence has indeed covered the once noisy and chaotic city" I said to myself. That's how I decided to share my opinion and my experience with you. I am sick of this numb feeling. Being locked inside your own home for an extended period of time is not recommended, neither healthy. However, even if it is really hard to find reasons, we should see the bright side. I think I can make the sadness go away and bring a little hope.

First of all, we have changed our daily schedule, adapted a new routine, some of us have done activities we probably didn't have time for before. Some of us have barely done something because we couldn't find the will to try different hobbies. I have personally started reading more. And I have developed a theory: there are two things that cannot be shut down by the government and authorities. These two things are our imagination and our hearts. As I was getting deeper and deeper into my reading I was carried away, remembering how bright my imagination was when I was little. I honestly never thought I would ever return to those memories. Maybe these are the side effects of having a childish imagination in a teenager body. Just kidding. I only found out I was into reading more than I thought.

Second of all we have spent more time with our parents. Time which maybe wasn't normally used for the "quality family time" section. Easter was different this year: we couldn't reunite with the whole family but at least some of us could spend time with a few loved ones. I played cards with my parents and I won...five times. Maybe that's not what my parents are really good at.

On the other hand, not being able to see our grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, not being able to hang out how we used to caused us a little more harm than we think. Eventually we got bored and felt alone. I have felt really sad lately. Do you know why? Because I see people drifting away instead of being close to their loved ones. I am not talking about physical contact, just about comforting friends or family members. In the end, this quarantine is temporary. Sometimes distance brings people closer.

If you ask me, my advice will be: Hope, let people you care about know that you miss them, don't stop dreaming and review the best memories you have. This mess is going to end one day. Until then, I have to work on something I haven't done in a while. See you all soon....

Soon the laughs will be heard again on the streets at sunset...



## FIND THE FUNNY SIDE, EVEN DURING A CRISIS



Unplug the TV, hide the remote and get back to basics: get out a good book from the bookshelf and lose yourself in fabulous fiction. Not only will time simply fly by, but you'll learn something new!!



Had enough of sitting down in one place? Why not tidy your room?



**"But mom, all you said was 'get all your stuff up off the floor!'"**



**"I don't know how you manage to eat all my cooking and never put on any weight."**

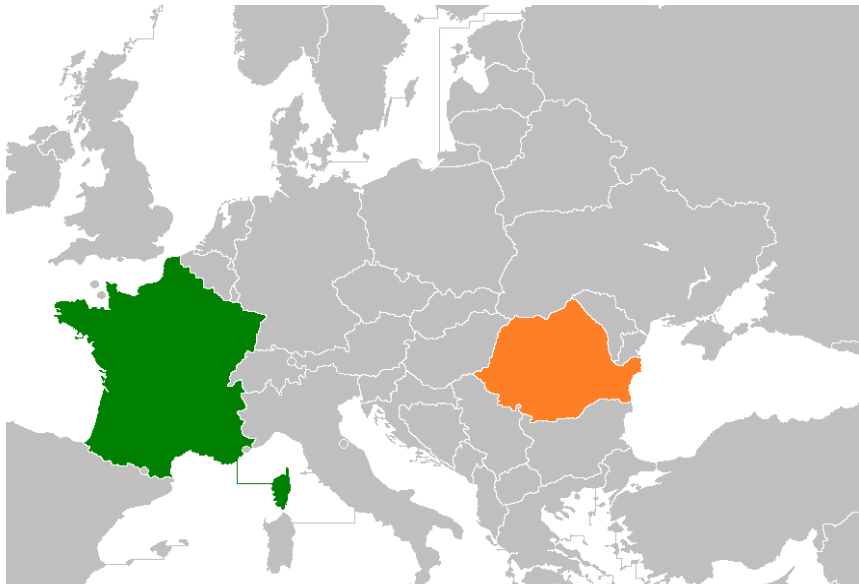
Unless you plan to live on takeout for the next couple of weeks, now's the time to brush up on your cooking skills. Work your way through you tube video recipes for a range of delicious dishes. You can try spaghetti, pizza, simply cakes ...And don't worry if things don't come out exactly as you'd hoped – after all, you did your very best!

## Home in Europe

*by Preda Bianca Iuliana, 9th grade*

Romania is a small Eastern European country with an average population of more than 19 million people and a total surface of 230.170km<sup>2</sup>. The official language is Romanian, a language derived from Latin.

France is an European country, located in the western part of the continent, with an average population of 66 million people (20<sup>th</sup> place) and a total surface of 674.843km<sup>2</sup> (41<sup>st</sup> place). The official language is French, a language that derived from Latin as well.



Paris, the capital of France, has been a cultural landmark across Europe during the past centuries, influencing the development of many other European cities and Bucharest was no exception. Outstanding Romanian personalities (Constantin Brâncuși, Eugene Ionesco, George Enescu) have refined their education while in Paris, bringing back into the country many cultural influences, from architecture, painting, music or fashion to language and literature.

One of the most notable figures of the French avant-garde theatre, Eugene Ionesco became the first Romanian writer accepted as a member of the French Academy in 1970. Another Romanian personality, Tristan Tzara, known for co-founding the Dada

*continues next page*

cultural movement moved from Romania to France in 1919. His work can be found today in museums around Paris. Constantin Brâncuși, one of the most remarkable sculptors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, completed his education at the Paris Academy of Beaux Arts and remained in Paris until the end of his life. During communism, most of these figures were repudiated and labelled as traitors, being impossible for them to return into their native country.

Linguistically, the French influence is visible in military and administrative domains, with a lot of words being borrowed during the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. However, it was only in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when the French influence grew stronger, generating the expansion of the Romanian lexis in many other domains.

The French influence was significant regarding Romanian architecture as well. Numerous Parisian style buildings, like the Romanian Athenaeum, the Cotroceni Palace and the Justice Palace brought to Bucharest the nickname of “Little Paris”. Moreover, another Paris landmark – the Triumphal Arch – has its Romanian equivalent as well, built in 1935, to commemorate the reunification of Romania in 1918.



But the relation between the two countries was not unidirectional and few people know that the Eiffel Tower was developed with a technology discovered in Romania, by the Romanian engineer George (Gheorghe) Pănculescu. He met Gustave Eiffel in 1879 to discuss this new method in order to raise an unusual tower, which was supposed to be presented at the Universal Exhibition in 1889. Together, they worked into creating what

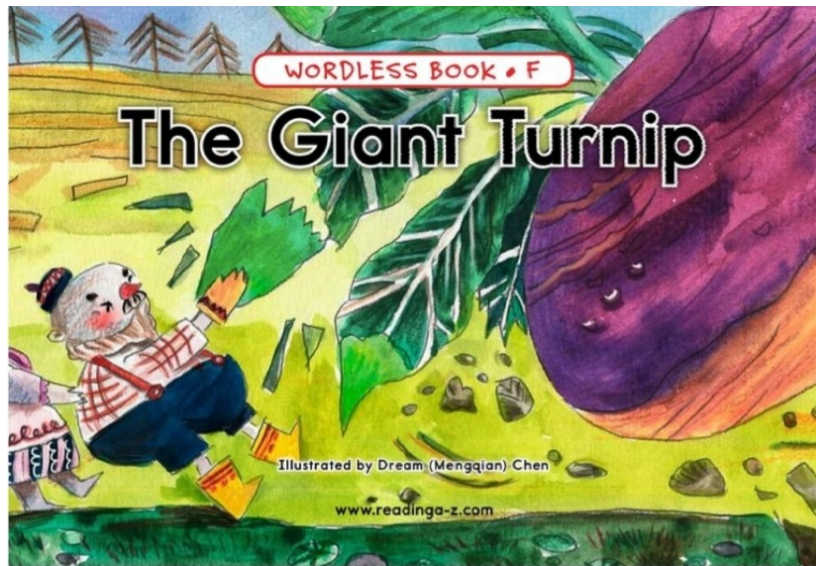


will become one of the most recognized symbols of the world. Moreover, the Eiffel tower was produced using steel from Reșița and iron from Govajdia, Hunedoara country, Romania.

France was always known for its fashion and during the centuries, Paris was the city where every new trend was released, spreading all over Europe shortly after. However, the Romanian traditional blouse, called *ia*, had a big influence on France fashion too. It all started with the friendship between two painters, Theodor Pallady and Henri Matisse, who first met in 1892, in Paris. French painter Henri Matisse was one of the first to capture the beauty of Romanian traditional port in his painting called “La Blouse Roumaine” (1940), inspired by a collection of traditional blouses he received as a gift from Theodor Pallady. The painting is currently held at the National Museum of Modern Art in Paris and inspired designers like Yves Saint-Laurent and many others to use the Romanian symbol in their future collections.

Regarding the current relations between the two countries, France has an embassy in Bucharest and three honorary consulates (in Brașov, Craiova and Constanța), while Romania too has an embassy in Paris and three consulates (in Lyon, Marseille and Strasbourg). Both countries are members of NATO and of the European Union and since 1993, Romania is a member of the Francophonie. French is also one of the most studied languages in Romanian schooling.





Words to Know	
budge	heap
burst	sprouted
grabbed	turnip



One day late in spring, Grandpa planted a turnip seed.

The Giant Turnip • Level F

3



In summer, turnip leaves sprouted. The turnip grew and grew.

4





Grandpa grabbed the leaves and pulled.  
The giant turnip didn't budge.

The Giant Turnip • Level F

5



Grandma walked by.  
"You need help!" she said.  
Grandma grabbed Grandpa and pulled.  
The giant turnip didn't budge.

6



Granddaughter walked by.  
"You need help!" she said.  
Granddaughter grabbed Grandma and pulled.  
The giant turnip didn't budge.

The Giant Turnip • Level F

7





Dog walked by.  
"You need help!" he said.  
Dog grabbed Granddaughter and pulled.  
The giant turnip didn't budge.

8



Cat walked by.  
"You need help!" she said.  
Cat grabbed Dog and pulled.  
The giant turnip didn't budge.

The Giant Turnip • Level F

9



Mouse walked by.  
"You need help!" he said.  
Mouse grabbed Cat and pulled.  
The giant turnip budged.  
Then it burst forth from the ground.

10



Grandpa, Grandma, Granddaughter,  
Dog, Cat, and Mouse fell backward in a heap.  
Before them lay the biggest turnip they had  
ever set eyes on.

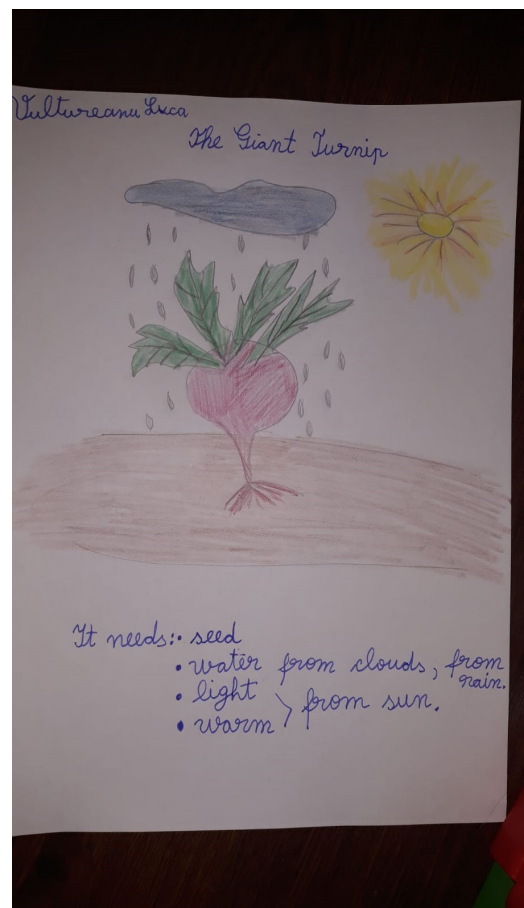
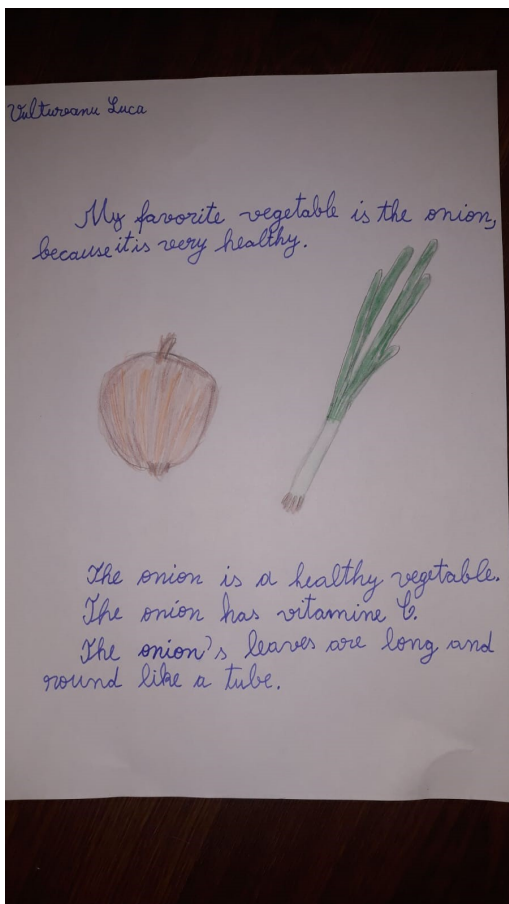
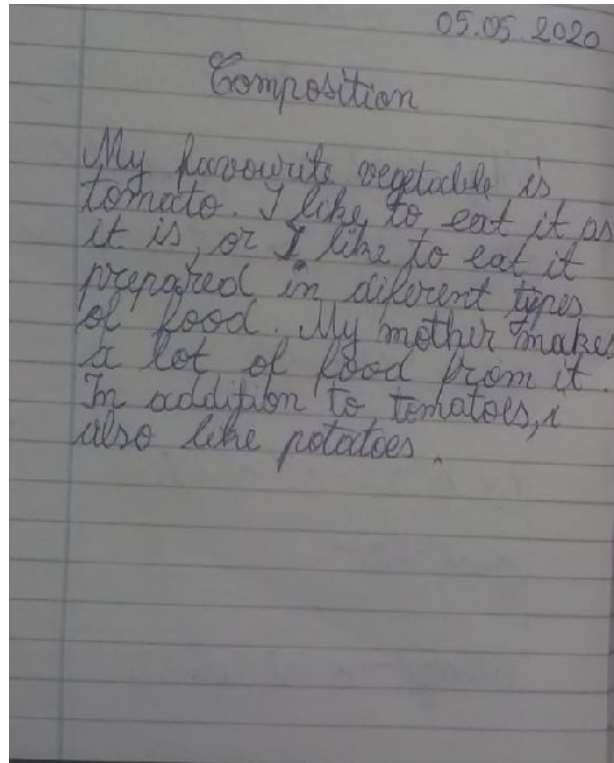


From then on, they had turnip  
for breakfast, lunch, and dinner!

**The End**



# VEGETABLES





# Gigantic Turnip Word Search

E N F Z V K I W S P P W Q K B  
S E M K J Y P E O O E O B C S  
E D S G I P I T O T L I P A F  
E R U R K R B Q S U G D Z L R  
H A N C A E L R Q T R M M B G  
C G E N L O L D W O M A N A T  
T L A L S V D K W E O N A U N  
N C I E D P F E E H W T R H Y  
U E E S E G E R G O I N E E A  
D S S E L S H C R G I T Q A N  
V C U E L T N B K P U O E V K  
B K O G U N Q E Y L W T W E E  
K P M E P H U K H T E Z O D D  
C O T T A G E C A T S D C J O  
P N P B K I Y E L L O W U Z N

big  
black  
brown  
canaries  
cats  
cheese  
cow

garden  
geese  
heaved  
hens  
mouse  
old man  
old woman

pigs  
pop  
pot bellied  
pulled  
speckled  
stew  
three

tugged  
turnip  
two  
white  
yanked  
yellow



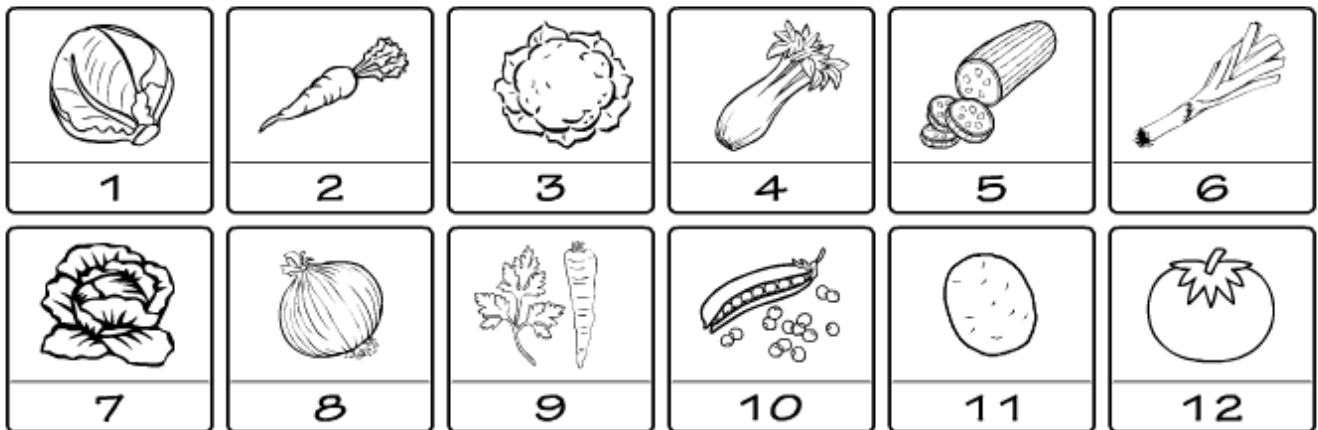
M	E	C	A	B	B	A	G	E	A	P	O	L	S	O
X	G	R	T	L	V	I	O	L	E	A	A	E	O	N
C	A	U	L	I	F	L	O	W	E	R	L	E	T	I
E	S	I	O	R	A	N	G	E	C	S	N	K	P	O
L	U	P	P	K	I	N	J	B	Z	L	G	V	M	N
E	U	E	T	L	E	T	T	U	C	E	R	P	L	E
R	E	A	L	O	W	Z	D	E	I	Y	E	W	G	P
Y	P	S	O	N	H	U	B	G	N	O	Y	J	Q	O
F	R	I	D	G	I	J	L	Y	C	A	R	R	O	T
W	O	R	T	O	M	A	T	O	J	B	L	E	Q	A
P	U	M	P	X	E	Q	C	T	M	G	R	E	E	T
Y	R	E	C	U	C	U	M	B	E	R	A	N	I	O

*Search for the words! They are hidden left to right and down.*

- CABBAGE
- CARROT
- CAULIFLOWER
- CELERY
- CUCUMBER
- LEEK
- LETTUCE
- ONION
- PARSLEY
- PEAS
- POTATO
- TOMATO



Write the missing letters.



1 C A \_ \_ A G E

2 C \_ R R \_ T

3 C \_ U L \_ F L \_ W E R

4 C \_ L \_ R Y

5 C \_ C \_ M B \_ R

6 L \_ \_ K

7 L \_ T T U \_ E

8 \_ N I \_ N

9 P \_ R S L E \_

10 P \_ \_ S

11 P \_ T A T \_

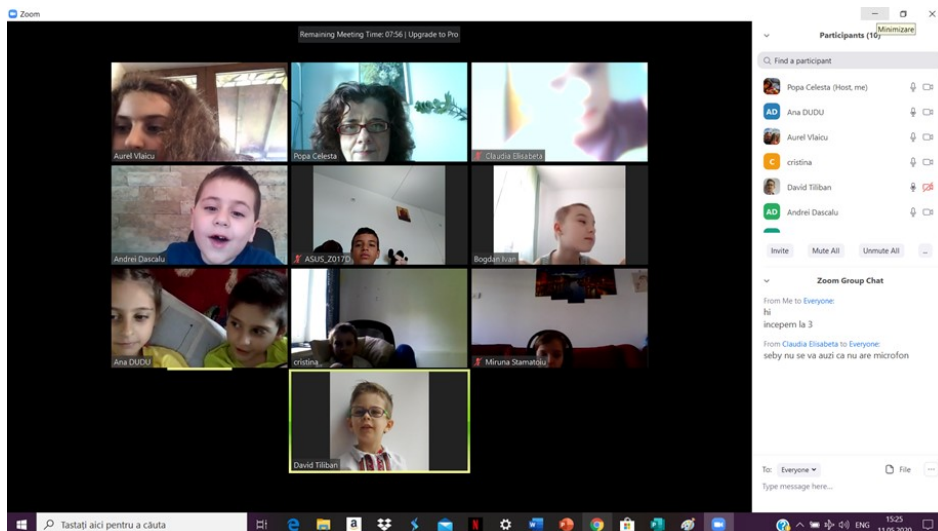
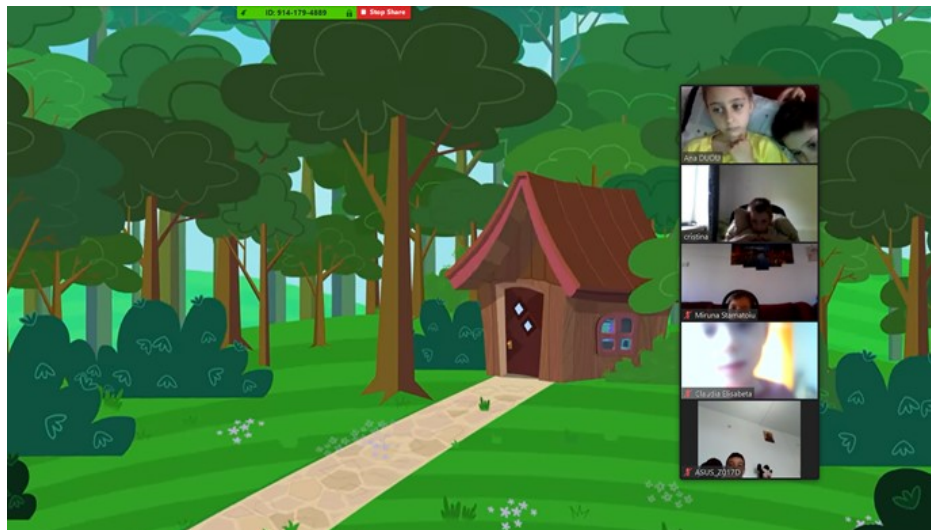
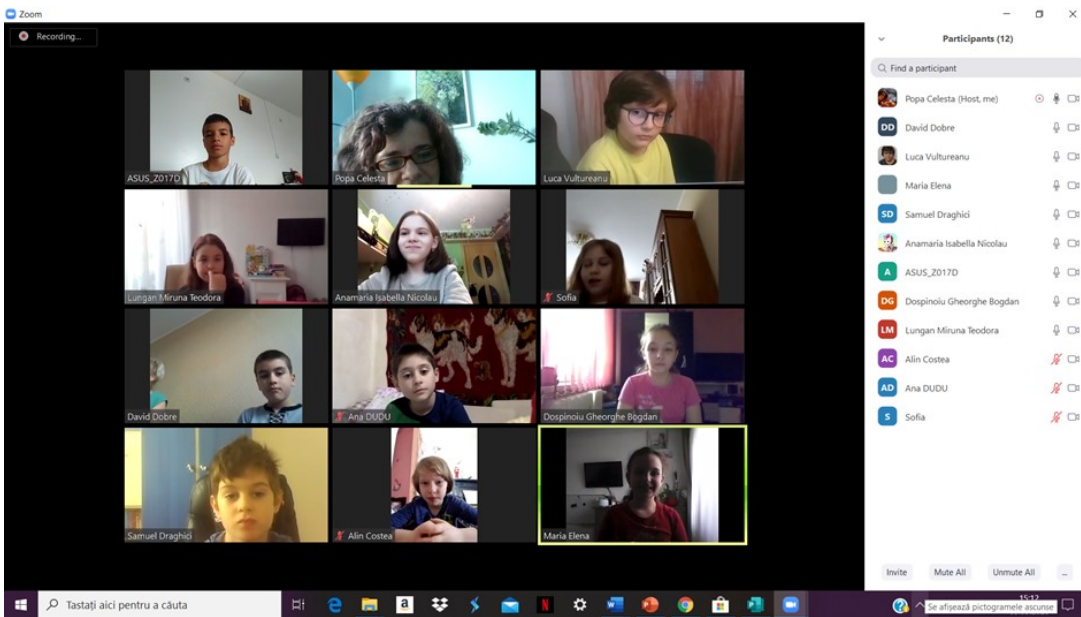
12 \_ O \_ A T O





# Using Zoom to teach online class sessions

## Goldilocks and the three Bears



## During Isolation

by Ene Runa, 4th grade



In this isolation period I stayed with my family. I read, I play, but the most beautiful thing is that I help my family! I help my mother to cook stuffed eggs, traditional sarmale and to make a delicious biscuit cake with apples! I'm glad that during this isolation I learned to cook, because cooking is one of my favorite activities!

This was my presentation! Goodbye!



ȘCOALA „I. L. CARACULI”  
 Inspectoratul Școlar al Municipality București  
**Festivalul de Creație și Interpretare a Poeziei „Ianus”**

ediția a VII-a

### PREMII

#### PRIMAR – creație

PREMIUL I	Eva Francisc	C.N. „Școala Centrală”	Coord. Barbu Elena Liliana
PREMIUL al II -lea	Maria Stroia-Popa	Școala Gimnazială Ferdinand I	Coord. Simona Aurora Spîrescu
PREMIUL al III -lea	Ilie Savu	C.N. „Școala Centrală”	Coord. Barbu Elena Liliana
MENTIUNI	Călin Ioan Drăgășin Banu Bogdan	Școala Gimnazială Ionel Teodorescu Școala Gimnazială Ionel Teodorescu	Coord. Zaharia Coziana Coord. Zaharia Coziana

#### GIMNAZIU – creație

PREMIUL I	Cezara Iovescu	Școala Gimnazială Nr 49	Coord. Popescu Florina
PREMIUL al II -lea	Maria Sebacher	Școala Gimnazială Nr 49	Coord. Popescu Florina
PREMIUL al III -lea	Isabella Rasquin	Școala Gimnazială Nr 49	Coord. Popescu Florina
MENTIUNI	Raisa Andreea Nițulescu Adela Vasile	Școala Gimnazială Nr 86 Școala Gimnazială Nr.39	Coord. Mădălina Crăciun Coord. Stancu Tania

#### PRIMAR – interpretare

PREMIUL I	Ana Diaconescu	Școala Gimnazială Ionel Teodorescu	Coord. Zaharia Coziana
PREMIUL al II -lea	Ene Runa	Clubul Copiilor sector 6	Coord. Popa Celesta
PREMIUL III	Dobre David Bogdan Banu	Clubul Copiilor sector 6 Școala Gimnazială Ionel Teodorescu	Coord. Simca Mariana Coord. Zaharia Coziana
MENTIUNE	Eva Ioana Popescu	Clubul de artă pentru copii „Arta Jucărilor”	Coord. Gatu Florentina

#### GIMNAZIU – interpretare

PREMIUL I	Raluca Miloșiu	Școala Gimnazială nr 62	Coord. Antonio Andrei
PREMIUL al II -lea	*	*	*
PREMIUL al III -lea	Dan-Gabriel Croitor	Școala Gimnazială Ferdinand I	Coord. Mirela Mihăilă

We congratulate Runa on winning the 2nd prize at Ianus contest, May 2020!



## My daily schedule during lockdown

by Runa Ene, 4th grade

First thing when I wake up is to open my balcony window and relax a little. After, I read or watch TV, I change my clothes and eat breakfast.

Many times, I do gymnastic, morning routine.

This workout is made up of some light warm-up exercises. After I do this, I go in my bedroom, where I make my bed and clean my room.

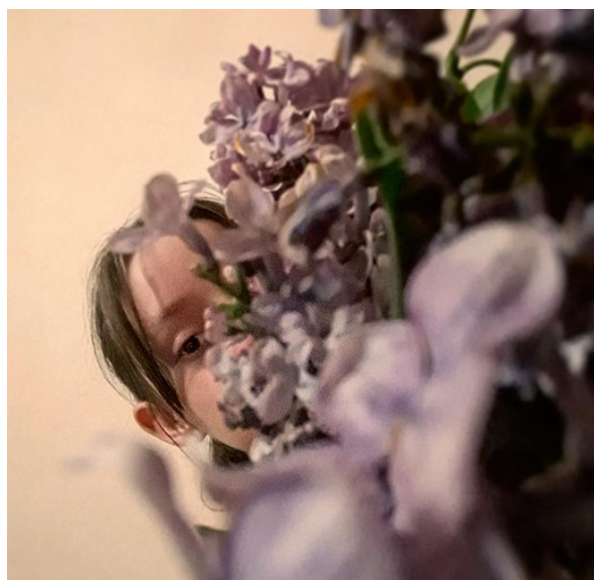
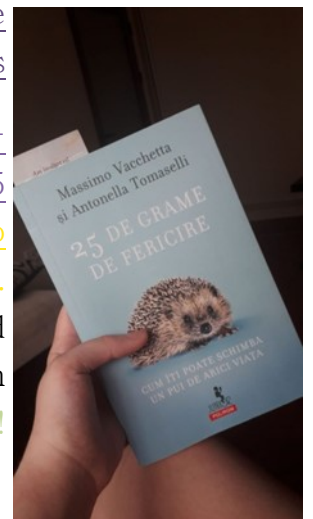
In the afternoon, I talk with my friends or I make some sport outside, if I can. Today I was out, with my beautiful bicycle



In the evening, I watch my favorite series

The Vampire Diaries(Jurnalele Vampirilor)or read my favorite book “25 de game de fericire” by Massimo Vaccehtta and Antonella Tomaselli.

This book is about true friendship and how a human can really hold on to an animal. This book is amazing!

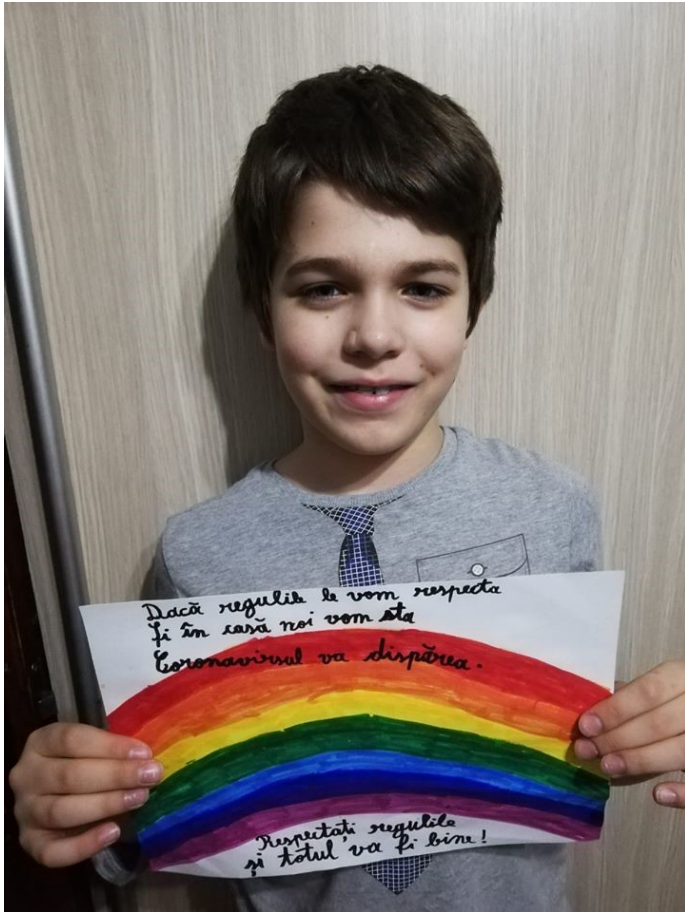


At 22 o'clock, I go to the bathroom and make a good shower. And when I'm done, I apply some natural oils. After, I watch a little bit TV, and then I sleep.

This was my schedule during a day of lockdown. I didn't make it very interesting, but I hope you enjoyed it!

Good Bye!





Be **SAFE** from coronavirus infection  
Be **SMART** & inform yourself about it  
Be **KIND** & support one another