

'TIME TO RESET SELF, WORK ON HOBBIES & BOND WITH FAMILY'

Students' views on the lockdown in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic vary, but a common refrain is that this unusual period is the time for introspection, self-discovery and improvement. They look upon it as the right time to reset lives and lifestyles in sync with the new reality.

PRINCIPAL'S VIEW

PEEYA SHARMA

Principal, Ryan International School, Sohna Road, Gurugram

Every cloud has a silver lining. Even though the lockdown though has increased work pressure on educationists with online school, a concept that is new to both teachers and students, it has, however, definitely helped in strengthening family bonds. Working together and gender-equal practices are happening at homes to do household chores, setting a good example to the Gen X. Students are learning life skills like cooking, sweeping and enhancing and exploring new talents. For me too in spite of the busy schedule due to online school, getting to spend more time with my family, read books and attend online workshops, apart from learning a new skill like gardening from my mother-in-law is a boon. In short, I would say it has given us an opportunity to enrich ourselves and develop new hobbies.



ARMAAN MATHUR

Class 10, Birla Vidya Niketan, Pushp Vihar

As an avid reader, I am reading a lot of books during the lockdown. I am also catching up on TV shows which I wasn't able to do earlier due to a busy schedule. I also help with household chores and play indoor games. Though I am unable to meet friends, we stay in touch through video calls and partake in online games as well as the House Party App.



SEERAT KAUR

Class 10, Goodley Public School, Shalimar Bagh

Daily, from 8 am to 12 pm, I attend online classes conducted by my school. Then I help mother in cooking and in cleaning our home, play indoor games, watch movies and make paintings (my favourite hobby). At 6 pm, I do an hour-long workout, followed by mathematics and science online classes and prayers. The practice of Social distancing has made me a lot stronger from within.



SREEJAN SHANKAR

Class 12, Amity International School, Saket

During the lockdown, I have been mostly reading newspapers, studying and sleeping. Whenever I feel bored I go out in the balcony to have some fresh air though it is difficult as I'm an outdoor person. Unlike earlier, I am now able to spend a lot of time with my parents, especially my journalist father who used to be away from home most of the time.



RAGHAV GUPTA

Class 6, Kendriya Vidyalaya, AGCR Colony

During the lockdown, I have been spending time in different ways — by indulging in drawing, cooking and helping my mother in household chores. I baked cookies under my mother's supervision and enjoyed it a lot. During these days, I avoid junk food due to the Covid-19 scare. We should have healthy food to boost our immunity system and stay at home to fight this pandemic. I maintain a balance between studies and extracurricular activities.

ROSHNEET KAUR

Class 12, Mata Jai Kaur Public School, Ashok Vihar

In mid-March, when I was appearing for the Class 12 board examination, little did I know then that a few days later I would be reading A Brief History Of Time by Stephen Hawking and losing track of time instead! The lockdown has given me the chance to read and write a lot. I am mostly reading novels and facts about the greatest authors which helps enhance my linguistic and writing skills, as well as to travel the world vicariously while staying at home. I am also spending quality time with my mother.



DISHA

Class 12-B, IITL Public School, Dwarka

For me, the lockdown is a time of self-introspection and self-realisation. Being a Class 12 student, I have my studies to focus on but this period has given me more time to hone my creativity skills in Zentangle and Mandala art which not only helps me relieve stress but also gives me self-satisfaction, enhances my creativity and makes me more focused. The lockdown has also given me more time to spend with family members and help them in daily chores. Since there are no helpers to do the cleaning work these days, we divide the work within ourselves to reduce the burden on anyone.



PALAK MAHAJAN

Class 11, DAV Public School, Shrestha Vihar

I am using the lockdown for self-improvement, reading, drawing and talking to family members and friends. Covid-19 has taught us the need to wash our hands often, drink hot water at regular intervals and to wash fruits and vegetables well. I watch the Ramayana serial on TV with family members. I also pray for the recovery of those infected and for the well-being of doctors, nurses, other medical staff as well as sanitation workers.



TANISI TRIWEDI

Class 5, Vishwa Bharati Public School, Noida

This year is very different from previous ones. Our teachers are now taking online classes and are making them very interesting. The lockdown has given me time to explore hobbies like gardening, clay art etc. But my passion is painting and I wish to be a great painter. I like to work on art forms such as sketching, still life, nature study, geometrical design, Madhubani painting, fluid art etc. I believe in the saying that "there is a dawn after every night." I hope this lockdown phase would end soon and that I would be able to soon meet my teachers and friends.



CHINMAYEE DAS

Class 10, DPS Indrapuram, Ghaziabad

It is a kind of new experience for me. I won't use the phrase — 'a horrible experience' but must say it is a very, very tough time for all. I am utilising it to hone my dancing skills and learn how to cook tasty dishes under my mom's supervision. I am also listening to my favourite songs, playing them on the synthesizer, spending quality time with my family and watching movies. I am grateful to the doctors, nurses and medical staff who are doing so much amid this crisis.



READING CORNER

HERE'S SOME FOOD FOR YOUR MIND

During the lockdown, we need food not just for the body but for the mind as well in the form of stories and art. Here is a collection of books on subjects ranging from Covid-19 to folktales, poetry and paintings.

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING SOAP

Author: Geeta Dharmarajan

The story educates children about the novel coronavirus disease so that they can protect themselves and their loved ones from the virus. Writer, social entrepreneur, and educationist Geeta Dharmarajan has written the story. It is set in the village of Dakshinpur which is full of happy and loving people. But we have a 'Germasura' who wants to attack the residents. What happens when soap mysteriously disappears from the village? The children hit upon an ingenious plan and make soap out of locally available ingredients. The story is available as a free ebook in English, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, and Assamese.



NANI KI NAAV

Author: Harindranath Chattopadhyay



The book is a long poem in Hindi written by the late Harindranath Chattopadhyay, who had a wide range of talents, and was the younger brother of Sarojini Naidu. One may think that a long, repetitive list of daily household items constitutes most of the poem, but in reality it is an imaginative glimpse into everyday life. Which items do Nani carry as she gets into her boat for a journey? How does a crocodile manage to get hold of her belongings? Illustrations in the book are by Nirzara Verulkar.

THE WIZARD KHIZR

Retold by Geeta Dharmarajan

The Wizard Khizr is a folktale from the streets of Iran that has timeless appeal. In the story, the King of Persia longs to find the mystical Wizard Khizr to put an end to his kingdom's sufferings, one of them being abject poverty. The folktale is interesting, full of wisdom, and has lessons for the world today. It has been retold by Geeta Dharmarajan and has illustrations by noted Iranian illustrator Negin Ehtesabain. It reminds one of Akbar-Birbal and Tenali Raman stories involving kings and wise men.



PAINT LIKE FRANZ MARC

Author: Geeta Dharmarajan

It is a book of paintings by Expressionist German painter Franz Marc that will encourage children and adults to see them and paint away. Each painting has a few words in the form of a question to reflect upon. The paintings develop critical thinking and awareness. Parents can pore over these books with their children. Moreover, it also introduces children to new animals that are not talked about much and adds to their vocabulary. It is available in English and Hindi.



RAZA BY RAZA

Author: Sayed Haider Raza

In a fun way, this book introduces readers to painter Sayed Haider Raza's life and work. It has simple text by Raza with the reproductions of many of his favourite works. It describes his simple beginnings in a village called Babaria in Madhya Pradesh and his journey in art. When he was young and unable to concentrate, a teacher drew a 'dot' on the blackboard and asked him to focus on it. Later on the 'dot' went on to define his work.



(This list was compiled by Katha Books)

MIND GAMES

SUDOKU

	9						2	5
							7	6
			7					1
		4			6			
8	6			5				
	1		3	8				9
2		5	1	7				
			5					
1				6				8

SCRAMBLE

Solve the four anagrams and move one letter to each square to form four ordinary words

NRAEE	*	*	*	*
BMILO	*	*	*	*
HETMAN	*	*	*	*
AELRGV	*	*	*	*

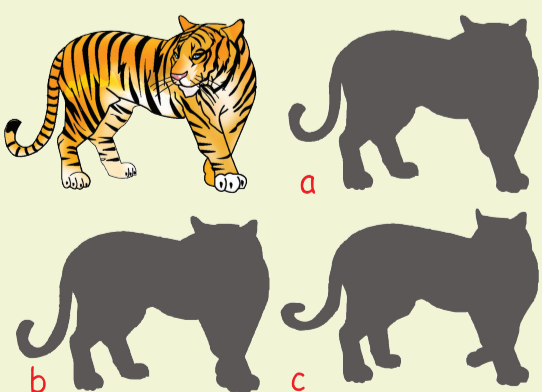
Now arrange the letters marked with an asterisk (*) to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing words as indicated.

Art is the only way to run away without __ - Twyla Tharp (7,4)

Answer: Art is the only way to run away without leaving home. - Twyla Tharp

SHADOW PUZZLE

Which of the three silhouettes exactly matches the tiger shown below?



Amrita Bharati Features

FIND THE TWINS

ONLY two of the eight masks below are exactly alike. Can you find them?



Answer: Third in top row and third in bottom row

MATHDOKU

7+		11+	2÷	
7+			12x	7+
8+				
	5+		12x	
2÷		5÷		

Place numbers into the puzzle cells so that each row and column contains each of the digits from 1 to 5. No number is to be repeated in any row or column. Each bold-out lined cell contains a hint of a number and one of the mathematical symbols + x ÷. The number is the result of the operation represented by the symbol to the digits contained.

COOKIES WITH A MESSAGE



Shortcrust pastry biscuits with the motif of a face mask displayed at a confectionery shop in Dresden, Germany, on Tuesday

AFP

Solutions

1	4	7	9	6	3	2	5	8
3	6	5	2	8	4	7	1	
2	8	6	3	4	7	1	5	9
4	9	1	2	7	8	3	6	5
8	7	4	6	5	1	3	2	
6	2	1	4	2	1	6	9	3
4	2	1	5	8	7	3	2	9
1	3	6	4	1	8	2	5	

SNODKUTSODNS

3	5	1	4	2
4	1	3	2	5
5	1	2	4	3
2	3	4	5	1
1	3	5	2	4

MATHDOKU SOLUTION

Scramble Solution: Douse, atlas, sundly, flash