



Community Workers & COVID-19

(Coronavirus: A Book for Children)

LoLo Smith

Edited by Marion Ingram and Rhonda Thomas



©2020 Loretta (LoLo) Smith
Book Design and illustrations ©2020 Gloria Marconi

All Rights Reserved.

Portions of this book, including significant portions of the dialogue, background graphics and photos, have previously appeared in the author's prior works.

ISBN: 979-8639077715

Printed in the United States by Kindle Publishing/Amazon.com

Published by Do The Write Thing of DC
www.dothewritethingdc.org

dothewritething1@gmail.com



Once there was
a little town in which there lived
a doctor,
a nurse,
a teacher,
a construction worker,
a grocer,
a chef,
an emergency medical
technician (EMT)
a police officer,
and the mayor.

Now what made this town special was that nobody ever had to buy anything because everyone was willing to share what they had for exactly what they needed. This was especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The mayor announced that only essential businesses could remain open.

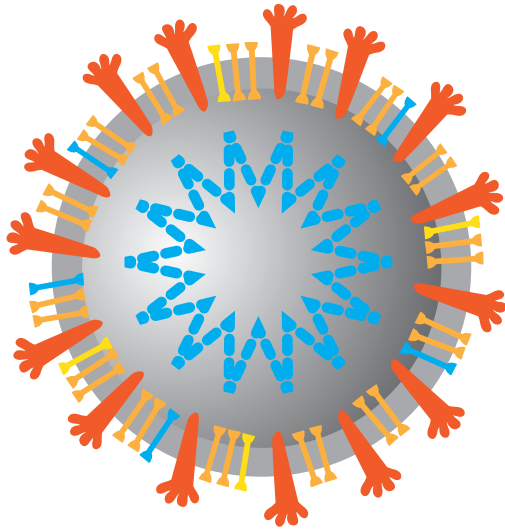
Restaurants, hair salons, barber shops, department stores, gyms, museums, and other businesses were closed. Even the schools were closed! The mayor also stated that citizens had to stay home. If citizens had to go out, they had to practice social distancing and wear proper face masks.

It was very important that everyone worked together during this pandemic to prevent spreading the coronavirus and to save lives.



The research doctor proudly announced, “I am working on a vaccine and cure for COVID-19.”

The Novel Coronavirus



The nurse reminded patients of the symptoms of COVID-19 caused by the coronavirus. “If you have a fever, cough, or shortness of breath, you need to be tested,” she said.



Parents attended Parent and Teacher (PTA) meetings online using Zoom, because the schools were closed. The teacher provided tips for staying safe, healthy, and preventing the spread of COVID-19.

“Wash your hands constantly, cover your mouth when you cough, stay home, and practice social distancing when you must go out,” she said.



When citizens walked to the grocery store, the grocer exclaimed, "I am open to provide fresh vegetables for you to eat, juice and clean water for you to drink so your bodies can stay strong and fight off the coronavirus."



The chef chimed in, "I'll make nutritious free food for essential workers. We are stronger together. Bon Appetit."



The construction worker said, “I will erect testing site tents so more people can get tested for the coronavirus.”



The EMT said, "I'll provide medical aid to those who are infected with COVID-19 and transport them to the hospital."



The police officer said, "I will make sure everyone is practicing social distancing, wearing proper face masks in public and that only essential businesses are open."



The mayor would hold daily press conferences on TV, radio or social media. She ended her conferences by saying, "Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay home."

The mayor knew that the citizens were getting tired of social distancing, wearing face masks in public, constantly washing their hands, not being allowed to eat in restaurants and not being able to visit relatives and friends. So the mayor decided to cheer everyone up by offering an award. She emailed the workers in the town and told them that the most essential work would receive a gold medallion!

Each worker emailed the mayor to tell her why they were the most essential worker.



The research doctor wrote, “I am the most essential citizen because I am working on a vaccine and a cure for COVID-19.”

“I am the most essential because I tell everyone the symptoms of COVID-19,” the nurse wrote.

“I’m the most essential,” wrote the teacher. “I give tips on how to decrease the spread of the coronavirus, so I deserve the award.”

“I am the one who gives everyone good food and water,” wrote the grocer.

“I prepare and serve healthy meals to the essential workers,” wrote the chef.

“I erect testing site tents,” wrote the construction worker.

“I provide medical aid to infected citizens and transport them to the hospital,” wrote the EMT.

“I make sure people practice social distancing, wear proper masks in public and that businesses that are not essential stay closed,” wrote the police officer.

The Mayor responded to all the emails and wrote:

“I thought everyone realized that the most essential citizen is the Mayor. I make all the important decisions, including those regarding COVID-19, which impacts thousands of lives.”

The citizens all got on a conference call with the mayor. When the mayor repeated that she was the most essential citizen in the fight against COVID-19, everyone yelled at her.



“Anything you can do; I can do better.
I can do anything better than you,” they
all shouted.

“No you can’t,” yelled the Mayor.

“Yes I can,” each citizen shouted back.

“No you can’t,” the Mayor insisted.

“Yes I can,” each citizen yelled right back.

“No you can’t!”

“Yes I can, yes I can, yes I can! Humpf!”

And with that everyone hung up
on the Mayor.





16

Well, what a **MESS** this was!

For the first time, everyone was angry with one another and no one was in the mood for sharing. Each worker was ready to prove that he or she was the most essential by holding out and not sharing his or her goods or services.

The research doctor did not work on finding a vaccine or cure for COVID-19.

The nurse did not do any testing to see if people were infected.

The teacher refused to teach online Zoom classes or to have PTA meetings to discuss tips on preventing the spread of the coronavirus.

The grocer closed her store.

The chef did not prepare or serve free meals.

The construction worker did not erect any COVID-19 testing center tents.

The EMT did not provide medical aid or transportation for sick people.

The police officer did not enforce social distancing or make sure businesses that were not essential remain closed.

And the mayor did not know what to do.



Then one day, when it seemed that things could not get any worse, the Mayor called a town meeting. Each person's was tested for COVID-19 before they could enter the conference room.

"Now, I have found the answer to our problem. We will simply share the gold medallion just like we used to share everything else because we are all essential in preventing the spread of the coronavirus which causes COVID-19."

The citizens all agreed that was a good idea.

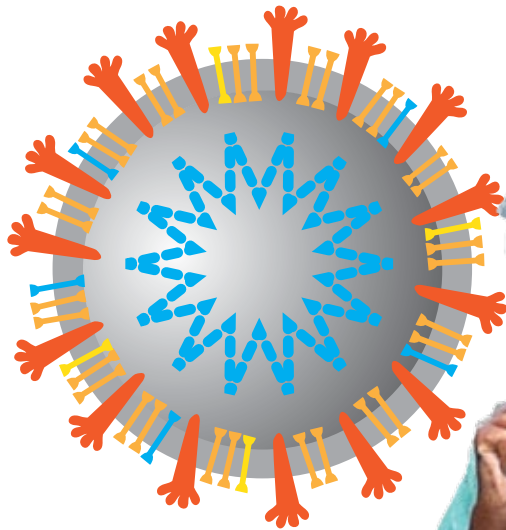




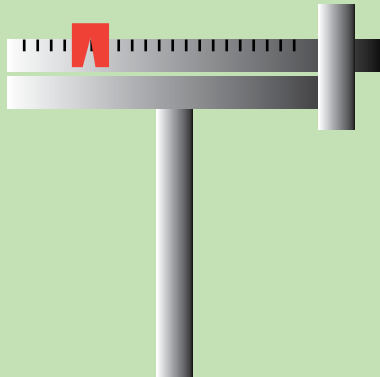
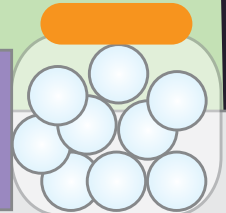
“As your mayor, I will be the first to share the gold medallion,” she said as she walked over to the doctor.

“I will work on the vaccine and a cure for COVID-19,” the doctor said. So the mayor handed the doctor the gold medallion.

The Novel Coronavirus



*Latex
Gloves*



The nurse said, "I will test those with fever, cough and shortness of breath which are signs of COVID-19." The doctor handed the gold medallion to the nurse.



“Wash your hands frequently and always cover your mouth when you cough,” the teacher said. So the nurse gave her the gold medallion.



"I have some fresh produce and water today," announced the grocer. So the teacher gave the grocer the gold medallion.



"I am offering delicious, healthy meals to essential workers. *Bon Appetit*," said the chef. So the grocer gave the chef the gold medallion.



"I erect COVID-19 testing tents," said the construction worker.
So the chef gave him the gold medallion.



“I will provide COVID-19 patients with medical aid and transportation to the hospital,” the EMT announced. So the construction worker gave the EMT the gold medallion.



“I make sure citizens practice social distancing, wear proper face masks and that businesses that are not essential stay closed,” the police officer reminded everyone. So the EMT gave the police officer the gold medallion.



So everyone in the town learned a valuable lesson about sharing. Now, every parent is teaching children that it is more essential to give than to receive. And the mayor is still reminding everyone to “Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Stay Home.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lolo Smith is an educator, writer and founder of Living Storybook, a literacy program for inner city children. She has written several other books for children including “Sista CindyElla Mae,” the African-American re-telling of the Cinderella story; “Ten Acts ofKindness;” and “My Doll & Me: Superheroes Fighting Bullyingwith Kindness.”

ABOUT THE DESIGNER & ILLUSTRATOR

Gloria Marconi is an illustrator and graphic designer working in the Washington, DC area for over 40 years. Over a ten-year period she illustrated over 27 lectures for the NIH *Medicine for the Layman* lecture series, drawing thousands of illustrations to accompany the lectures. Her ability to explain complex medical and scientific concepts to lay audiences directed much of her career. A multi-faceted artist, Ms. Marconi specializes in print and works in a variety of media ranging from traditional to quilting to computer-generated illustration. Her clients have run the gamut from corporations to government to non-profits as well as editorial illustrations for books, magazines and advertising. She lives in suburban Maryland and can be reached at gmarconidesign@verizon.net

COMMUNITY WORKERS

Get **FREE** paper dolls and clothing/uniforms
for community workers plus 40 reading, spelling and math
activity sheets based on the names of the community workers.
Children enjoy cutting out and coloring these paper dolls and
dressing them in the clothing/uniforms of doctor, chef, fire
fighter, police officer, construction worker, teacher and judge.

Email dothewritething1@gmail.com

