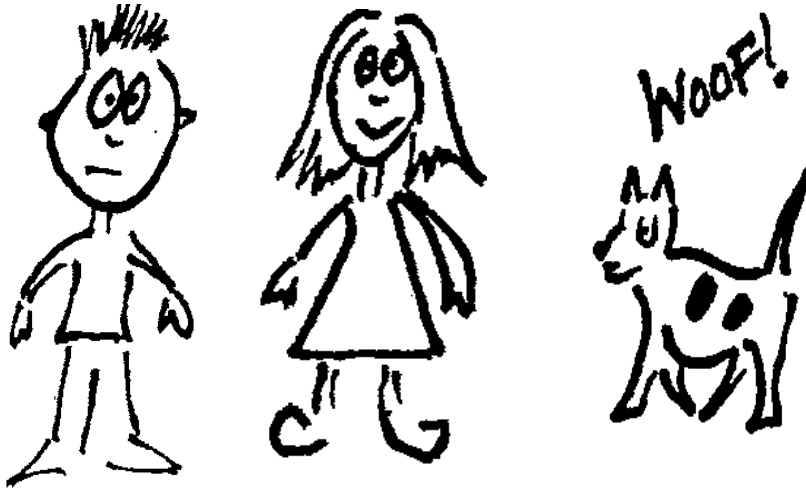
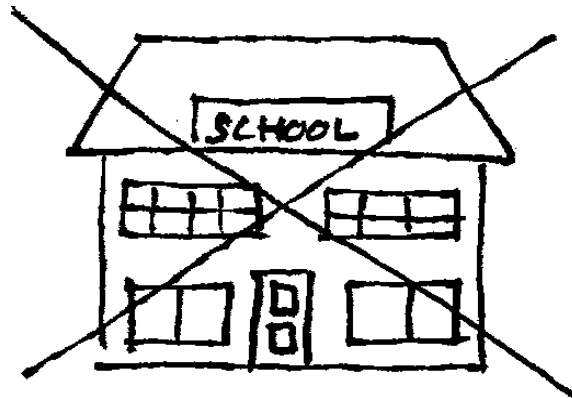


This is a story for children in Durham about a new type of bug called Coronavirus and how it is affecting the things that children are able to do and the people that they can see.

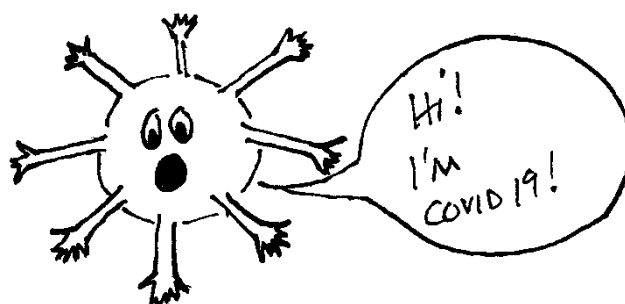
Steven and Molly live with their mam and dad and their dog Spot. Steven and Molly have a social worker called Sam who comes to see them to make sure that everybody is okay.



Steven and Molly go to school near their house. But now all schools in Durham and across the whole country are closed because of something called Coronavirus. Like some other children, Steven and Molly still go to school to be looked after by their teachers but they don't do lessons like they used to.



Coronavirus is a nasty bug. Some people also call it Covid 19. It makes people cough lots and it can make them feel really hot. Some people get sick with Coronavirus and need to go to hospital. Coronavirus can move from person to person really fast. This is why many children can't go to school, play outside with their friends, or go on the swings in the park. Some adults can't go to work. This is to stop lots of people getting the Coronavirus.



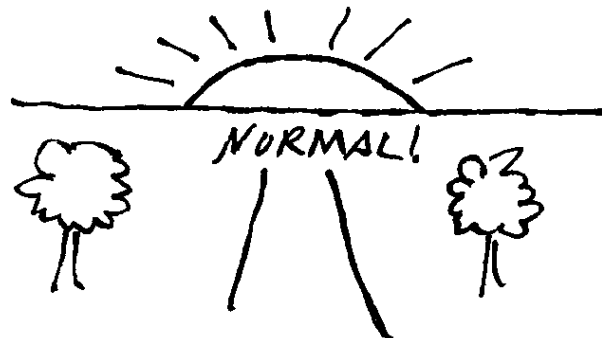
To stop the nasty bug from moving from person to person Steven and Molly have to spend more time at home when they aren't being looked after by their teachers. This is hard for lots of families and Steven and Molly's mam and dad have been arguing more and are worried about having enough for everyone to eat. Steven and Molly get a nice dinner at school every day and Sam the social worker has been helping the family with the worries that they have.



To make sure that the virus doesn't spread, Sam isn't usually allowed to visit Steven and Molly at home, but Sam will keep in touch with Steven, Molly, mam and dad by talking to them on the phone or on video. If Sam can't come to work, then someone else will keep in touch with Steven, Molly, mam and dad to make sure that everyone is okay.



We hope that if everybody stops Coronavirus from moving around then soon all children will be back at school and Steven and Molly will be able to play outside again with their friends. We don't know how long it will take for things to go back to normal but until then Steven and Molly are going to keep washing their hands and if Steven and Molly have any worries then they can talk to mam, dad, their social worker or other people in their family.



Until it is safe enough for all children to go back to school and play out with each other again, Steven and Molly are thinking of lots of fun and interesting things to do, like drawing, building Lego and playing board games.

