

CHILDREN ARE STAYING HOME

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Kids all over the world are staying home. Kids in Kantolomba are staying home.

"Why do we have to stay home, Mama T?" Asked Bruce.

"There is a virus," Mama T replied. "It can make people sick. We want to stay healthy so we are staying home."

"But how will we get our lunch if we stay home?" Asked Docus.

"We will come to the Living Compassion property and line up one-by-one," said Teacher Veronica. "We will each collect our lunch and take it home to eat."

"But how will we get our water?" Asked Angela.

"We will come to the water tap one-by-one," explained Teacher Charles. "We will make sure we stay one meter apart from other people. We will each wash our hands before we touch the tap."

"But how will we learn?" asked Edna, a small tear rolling down her cheek.

"Yes," agreed Joseph, "If we cannot gather together how will we learn?

"Yes," chimed in Loveness, "If we cannot go to school, how will we learn?" "Yes," added Philip, "If we cannot be with our Living Compassion teachers, how will we learn?"

"I do not know," said Teacher Susan who looked at Teacher Malila. "How will we learn, Teacher, Malila?"

"I, too, do not know," answered Teacher Malila. She looked at Teacher Beatrice, "How will we learn?"

"I do not know how we will learn," answered Teacher Beatrice. She looked at Teacher Anne.

"How will we learn, Teacher Anne?"

"I also do not know how we will learn," replied Teacher Anne.

Everyone began discussing this problem. "How will we learn?" they all asked.

"I can teach," said little Eunice quietly. But no one heard her.

Everyone was busy discussing the problem: How will we learn?

Everyone went home that day feeling very sad, each person asking another, "How will we learn?"

"Good morning, Eunice. Good morning Peace," said Cook Joann when Eunice and her little brother Peace arrived at the property to collect their lunch the next day.

"Good morning, they greeted in return."

"I can sing my A, B, C's." Little Peace proudly told Cook Joann.

"How did you learn?" asked Joann.

"Eunice taught me," replied Peace, with a big smile. "I can teach," said Eunice shyly, also smiling.

Teacher Joann smiled too.

"Little Eunice can teach," Cook Joann told the group of students lining up one-by-one to collect their lunch. The students laughed, "Eunice cannot teach. Eunice is only a little girl. She cannot teach."

"Little Eunice can teach," Cook Joann told the group of people lined up one-by-one to collect water from the tap. The people all laughed, "Eunice cannot teach. Eunice is not a teacher. Eunice is a young student."

"Little Eunice can teach," Joann told the other Living Compassion cooks.

The cooks all laughed, "Eunice is a small girl. She is not a teacher."

I will show you, Cook Joann said smiling again. Cook Joann led little Peace to the center of the courtyard. Little Peace loudly and proudly sang his A, B, C's.

"Little Eunice taught little Peace his A, B, C,s" Joann told everyone. "Little Eunice is a teacher."

"Yea!" they all clapped and cheered. "Little Eunice is a teacher."

"I know how we will learn," said Edna, with a huge smile on her face. "We will teach!"

And on this day, everyone went home very happy, each one asking the other, "What will you teach?"

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To the children, parents, teachers, brothers, sisters, friends, neighbors, relatives of Kantolomba,

We all have something to teach and we all have many things to learn. During this time of the COVID-19 virus when we are asked to stay at home, when our bright, young children are not able to go to school, let's all participate in teaching and learning.

What do you have to teach?

Gather with one or two people, keeping your social distance, staying safe, to teach and to learn.

We are stronger than we realize. More resourceful than we ever knew. We are a remarkable community filled with remarkable people. We're important. We matter.

I'm proud of everyone here in this community.

Let's assist each other to prove that to ourselves.

Please feel free to pass this book on to anyone in the community. Read it to people. Use it to teach people how to read. Read to anyone who is not able to read. Ask for help and always remember to use social distancing!

Have fun; take care; be well.

With care,

Twalimitemwa, Theresa and The Living Compassion family