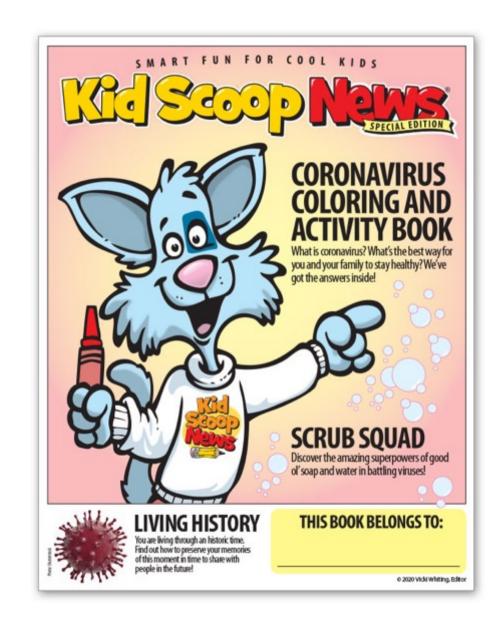
The *Kid Scoop News*Coronavirus News Project for Children

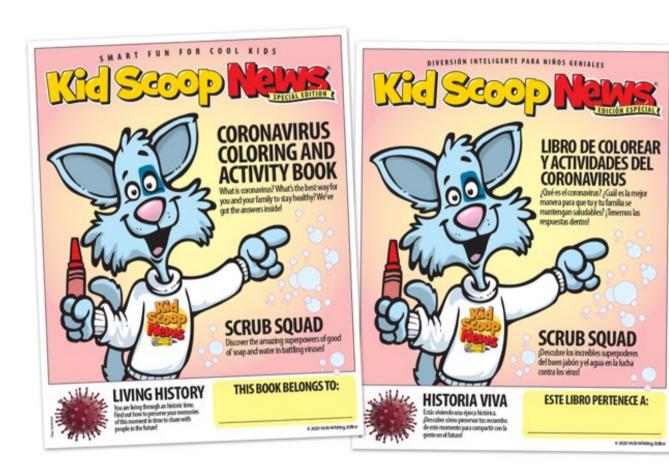
- Created and Published a Coronavirus Coloring & Activity Booklet (English & Spanish Editions) distributed at no cost
- Coronavirus Information Pages Distributed to 300 Newspapers in U.S. and Canada
- Student Covid Diary Writing Project
- Virus-Education Mask Project



What We Did

We created the *Kid Scoop News Special Edition Coronavirus Coloring and Activity Booklet* for children ages 6-14. We printed 60,000 in English and 10,000 in Spanish. This 24-page, four-color booklet was distributed through food distribution programs, family service centers, libraries, schools and medical clinics. Copy and paste this url to access pdfs of the English and Spanish editions

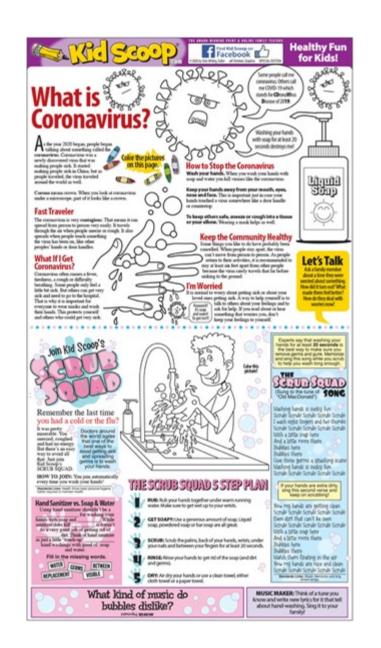
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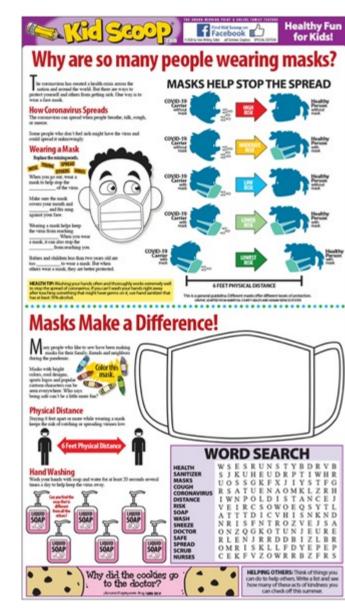


We created two *Kid*Scoop Coronavirus

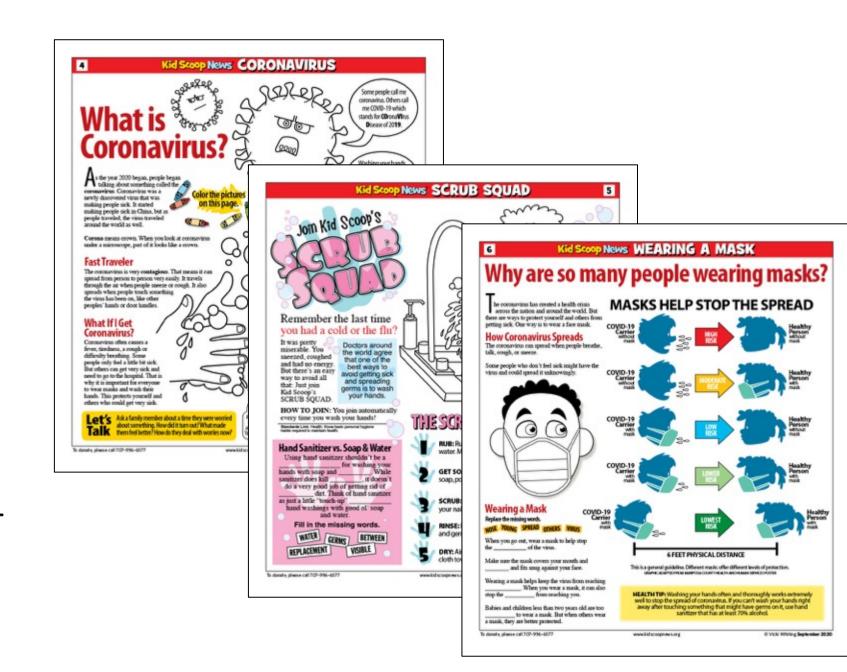
Education Pages

which were published in 300 newspapers in the United States and Canada, reaching 7.5 million readers.

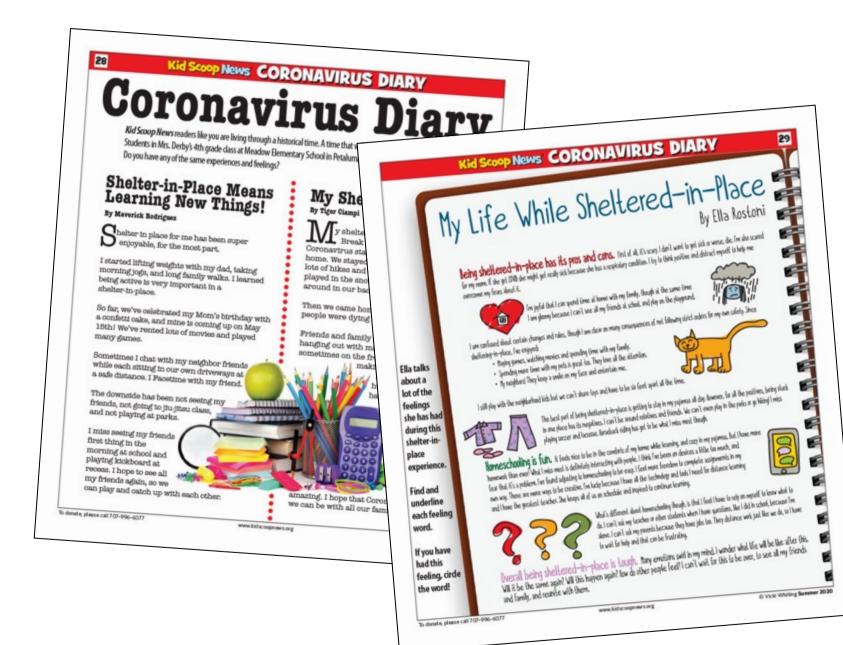




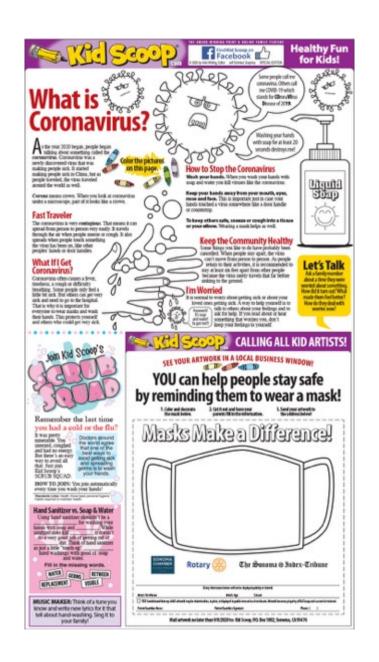
We also published these Coronavirus education pages in our monthly publication for children, *Kid Scoop News*, reaching 50,000+ children.



We partnered with a teacher and her students who wrote entries for a *Covid Diary*. We published several student entries.



We partnered with our local newspaper, The Sonoma Index-Tribune, the Sonoma Chamber of Commerce, and the local unit of Rotary International to publish the Kid **Scoop Coronavirus Education Pages.**











We developed the *Virus-Education Mask Project*. Conceived by the local Rotary International unit, children in Sonoma, California, decorated outlines of paper masks created by *Kid Scoop* that were published in the *Index-Tribune*, a Sonoma weekly newspaper. The completed colorful masks were posted in the windows of Sonoma businesses.



How We Did It

The Kid Scoop Coronavirus News
Project for Children was funded by
local philanthropy. The booklet was
created by the Kid Scoop creative
team. We partnered with 300
newspapers who published the
content throughout North America.
San Francisco Bay Area partners
provided distribution and promotion
to more than 100,000 children.

Typical Feedback

"The very timely and well thought out Coronavirus Coloring and Activity Booklet that Kid Scoop created and offered to our district was immensely helpful and greatly appreciated.

We were in the midst of training and reminding our staff and in particular our Nutrition Services staff on the details of the virus and safety procedures. Our Nutrition Services staff have been on the front lines since the beginning of the pandemic, and we were seeking any details to help protect them.

This booklet was offered to us at the perfect timing for us to share it with our Nutrition Services staff to compliment our in-house training. I learned important information that I hadn't been aware of as well.

We were not sure when our students were going to return to their schools, but we wanted them to understand the virus and how best to stay safe. The booklet did this and in a fun and informative way. We knew all ages were going to appreciate and benefit from this resource that was created in a thoughtful and engaging way."

Nancy Deming

Custodial and Nutrition Services
Oakland Unified School District

Why We Did It

The initiative's purpose was to explain the facts about the Coronavirus to young children and their families as well as what they could do to protect themselves. Through education of children and families, we strove to also help with the anxiety children were facing.







How It Was Successful

Extensive Distribution of Key Health Message: Community and newspaper distribution partners immediately agreed to participate when we reached out, as there was an urgent need to get this information to children—no one else was doing it at the time. As such we quickly reached an estimated several million children and families throughout North America.

The benefit to our organization was increased brand awareness and understanding of the role of print during this crisis. In fact, only 30% of school children were accessing distance learning last spring. By providing *The Kid Scoop News Coronavirus Coloring and Activity Book* in print we were able to reach children who were completely isolated. This feedback was reported to us by teachers and partner organizations.



Community Feedback

"Kid Scoop News has done an excellent job with the special edition of the Coronavirus Booklet, providing such an important resource and in a fun and interactive context for children.

The publications and resources not only talk about activities but about real situations that one faces. As a Teacher in the Avance Program and as part of the Luz Center, I believe that having those resources available to be able to use them with the families with whom we work has made a big change in the community to be able to face the pandemic.

The fact that the booklets have also been provided not only in English, but also in Spanish gives us an opportunity to involve the Latino community more. It is also a great resource that children can use to do activities."

Amelia Gutierrez, Avance Teacher & Site Supervisor

Recommended Next Steps

- It is critical to continue providing useful, quality reading resources for children and families in print. Distance learning has created even bigger gaps in learning achievement than existed before the pandemic. Research has documented that the gaps were quite challenging before the pandemic began. Community partnerships should continue to work together to deliver quality educational resources to children who are the most behind and isolated in homes that lack engaging and quality reading material that builds reading skills.
- Kid Scoop News has educational content that teachers highly value and children tell us they enjoy. This Kid Scoop News content can be licensed and utilized in other communities, which makes it relatively low-cost to replicate what we did.
- Our team is also available to share how we made this *Kid Scoop News Coronavirus Project for Children* work successfully.

Background on Kid Scoop News

- In 2009, *Kid Scoop News* evolved from the long-established syndicated youth feature called *Kid Scoop* which began publishing in 1985.
- A <u>for-profit company</u> produces *Kid Scoop* which was created in 1985 as a <u>weekly</u> youth feature in a local newspaper based in Sonoma, California. The *Kid Scoop* weekly feature has been self-syndicated by Vicki Whiting, CEO and Creative Director, to more than 300 newspapers with a circulation of 7.5 million in 2021.
- With so much content produced for *Kid Scoop* every week since 1985, this archived content has been repurposed and published in the <u>non-profit monthly</u> *Kid Scoop News* in 2009 Whiting wanted to reach additional children in areas under-served by newspapers, and reach children from homes that contained little or no printed material. The goal was to bring the "magic of reading" to these children. The goal was to engage them in reading and thus improve their reading skills and content knowledge in geography, science, history, and literature.
- Since 2009, Kid Scoop News, the monthly tabloid publication has been distributed directly to schools to reach these children. Distribution of the magazine (both in English and Spanish) is by teacher request. Kid Scoop News has been so much in demand, especially in inner-city schools, that finding underwriters to fund these requests has been a challenge. The majority of interested funders were philanthropic, so in 2011, Whiting created a non-profit 501c3 foundation to manage and operate Kid Scoop News.
- Read more about the story behind *Kid Scoop* at https://foxchapelpublishing.com/news/press-release/kid-scoop-founder-launches-educational-childrens-books.html/