

# ANSWERING YOUR CHILD'S QUESTIONS ABOUT COVID-19



"What is a virus?"

A **virus** is a kind of **germ**. **Germs** are very small - they are smaller than the tiniest piece of sand or dust so you can't see them without a microscope. **Germs** are alive but they don't think or feel like people do.

Hint: Plants are another kind of living thing that are alive but don't think or feel!



COVID-19 is very **contagious**, which means that it can easily move or **spread** from person to person. The best way to stay safe is by washing our hands and staying home as much as we can. When going outside, it is important to stay **6 feet away** from other people so that we don't catch the virus from anyone else.

Hint: 6 feet is about as long as your bed from head to foot!

"Can I catch it?"



"Why are people wearing masks?"

If someone is sick or thinks that they are sick, they may wear a mask to help prevent them from **spreading germs** to more people. **Healthcare workers** - like doctors and nurses - also wear masks to protect themselves and their patients while they are helping people who are sick. You will be safe without a mask as long as you are washing your hands and keeping a safe distance from other people when you leave your home.



Most people who have caught the virus do not die; they stay home, rest, and get better. If someone needs more help, they go to a hospital where doctors and nurses work really hard to make sure they get the help they need.

"Can you die from COVID-19?"

"Is there a cure?"

We are still learning about COVID-19 and there are lots of scientists trying to find a medicine that will be stronger than the virus. This cure might be called a **vaccine**.



If we get sick, we will stay home and rest until we get better. If someone who normally takes care of you gets sick, there are still lots of people who can care for you until they feel better again. If you get sick, your family will take care of you just like when you have a cold or flu.

"What if you/I get sick?"