

Here are some sample questions from younger children and the types of answers you may want to give. Of course this list is not exhaustive! You know that children never run out of questions. This is just to get you started.

1. **Why is there no school?** A lot of people have gotten sick so we're staying home for a while.
2. **How long?** I'm not sure yet, but we'll be here with you (or whoever will be with them).
3. **What does pandemic mean?** It just means that people are sick in many different places with the same illness.
4. **What's going to happen?** People will get better, and we will go back to school and work.
When? (see #2)
5. **I'm scared!** I understand. It's okay to be afraid, but in this case, we don't really have to worry.

Here are some sample questions from older children and teens and the types of answers you may want to give. Also not an exhaustive list! It is possible that your older kids may not ask as many questions but may worry just as much or more. You are the expert on your children and have your own family values to convey, but this may help get you started.

1. **What is the coronavirus?** It's just a new type of a virus we have always had in the world.
2. **Why is everyone freaking out?** Not everyone is freaking out, but those are the people who make the news and post on social media. Most of the world is just trying to take precautions to keep the spread down so we can have as few people ill as possible.
3. **Am I going to die?** So far, the young people who get sick recover very well, and some people don't even know they're sick because the symptoms are mild.
4. **Are you going to die?** I'm not as old as you think I am! (feel free to tell a joke of your making here, but repeat that you are well also).
5. **Is grandma/grandpa going to die?** We're taking these precautions so people like them do not have to be exposed to this illness. Even if they did get it, most elderly people recover well.
6. **Are we gonna run out of stuff?** We might run out of broccoli (again, your joke here), but we will make sure that we have all the important things we need to take care of you.